KEEP STRONG

AIM: "Whose Birthday Celebration?" Hampton-Clark Suit. FBI Caught In Lies.

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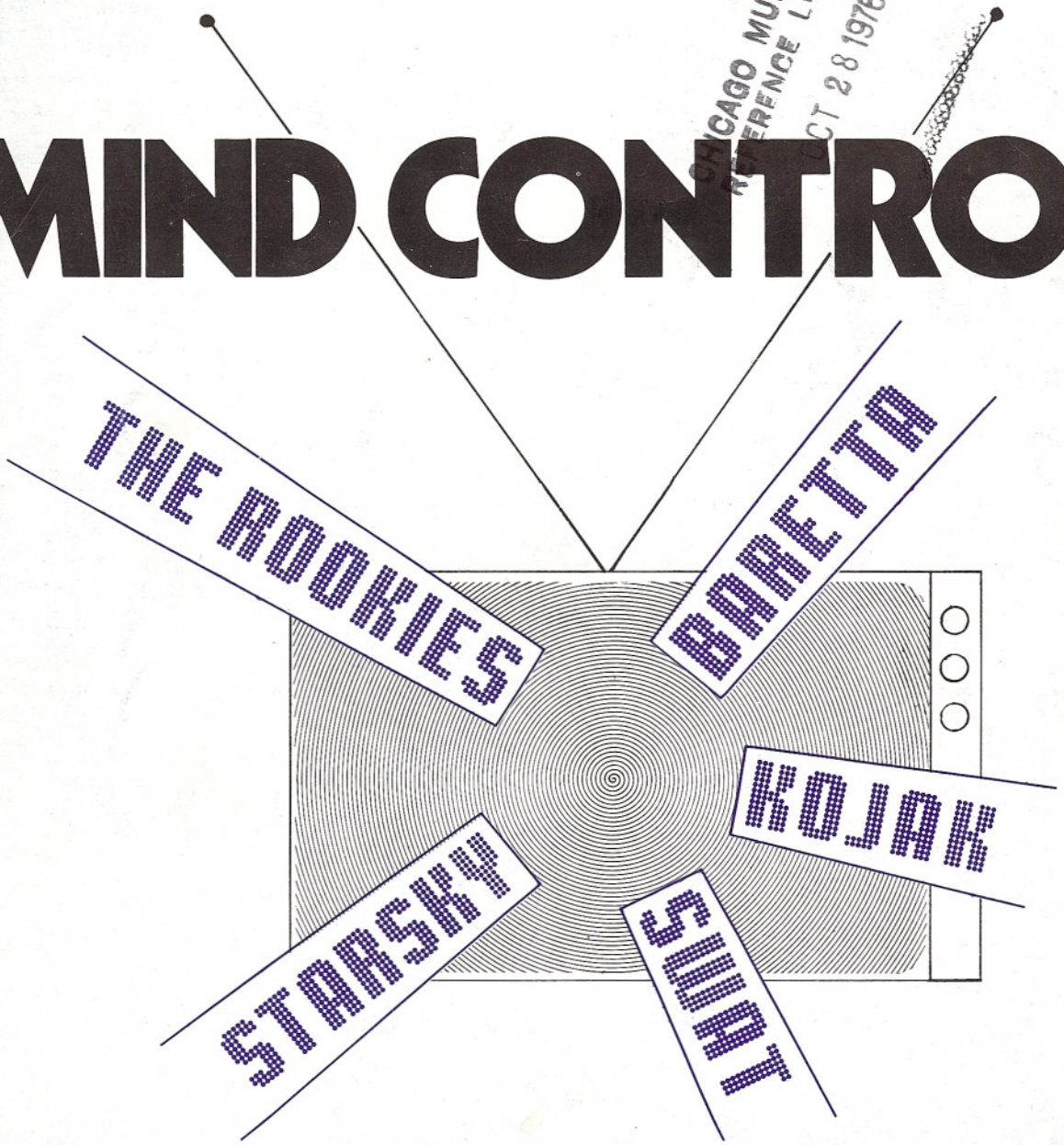
MIND CONTROL



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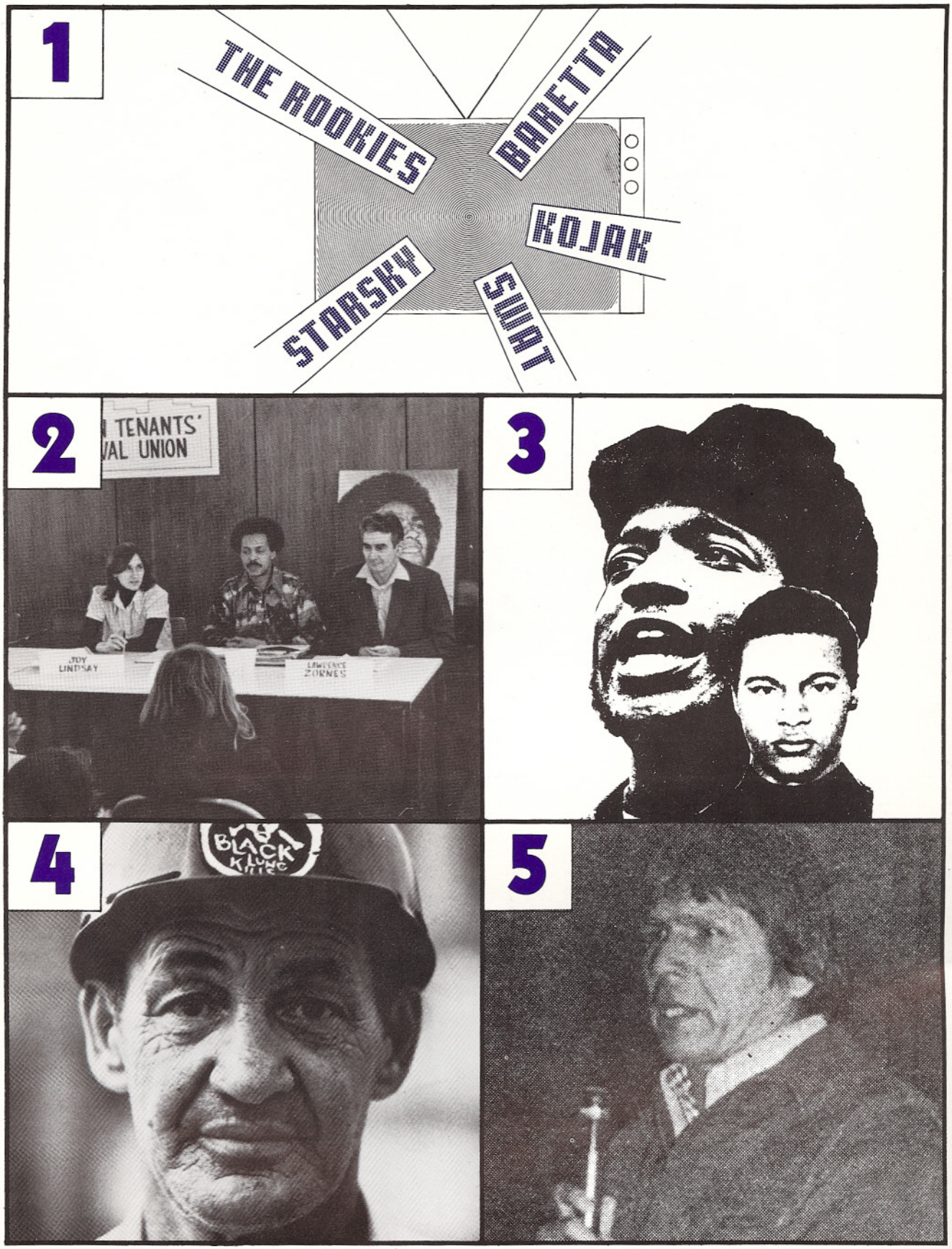

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In This Issue

1. The Editorial and a special analysis in the Entertainment section question the reason behind the great number of police shows on T.V. In "On The Street" the community compares the "police" shows on T.V. and the police on the streets of Chicago.

2. In depth report on the "model" tenants union developing in Uptown. See Page 17.

3. FBI cover-up revealed in Hampton-Clark suit; thousands of documents "found." See Page 30.

4. Even as new mining disasters occur the federal government makes job security and black lung compensation harder to get. See Page 19.

5. In a special interview, AIM leader Vernon Bellecourt explains their perspective on the bicentennial and the extradition of Dennis Banks. See Page 27.

EDITORIAL

MIND CONTROL

The U.S. ranks in the top five among the world's countries for having the greatest number of mentally ill people. While our own government charges other countries with "brainwashing" and "constant propaganda," our people suffer from a daily dose of daydream spectaculars on radio, television and in the movies that challenges the sanest people to keep their feet on the ground. When you add the heroin, amphetamines, barbiturates and the Wild Irish Rose, it is no wonder that so many people lose track of reality.

Behind the mind control are multi-million dollar industries with the same big stockholders as the oil companies, the steel and auto companies, and the arms manufacturers that have the controlling influence on the government. When the government was set on fighting Russia, we saw films about "getting the communists." When the government was set on the war in Vietnam, there were movies every night about the "Asian yellow horde" threatening the "free people" of this country. We watched as we were "saved from communism," from Asians, and now we are watching the police save us from ourselves.

The 54 police and detective shows currently on T.V. are designed to prove to us that we want to have a police state to save us from the criminals. On television the police are "good and decent men" who risk their lives to save us from organized crime, lone nuts and the "scum" people of the inner city. They are bothered by all this "civil rights" legislation and "weak-kneed" judges in the courts; but they get around these things, defying civil rights and beating confessions and information out of "worthless thugs" to save the "good" people.

And what will we do while the police protect us in the fantasy T.V. world? We will look out the window and call PO-5-1212 to turn in suspicious neighbors and watch "Search for Tomorrow."

But you can't eat "The Edge Of Night." You can't feed babies "Somerset," and you don't get a paycheck from "All In The Family." It is time we determine to take our minds back into our own brains behind our own eyes and ears, because the police state they are selling us in television daydreams is real. Off the T.V. screen it is mobilizing racist support from a

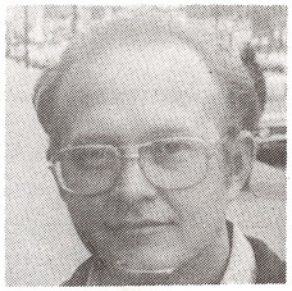
"It is time we determine to take our minds back into our own brains behind our own eyes and ears, because the police state they are selling us in television daydreams is real."

The real SWAT (above) is notorious for its attacks upon the oppressed and especially Black communities of Los Angeles.

frightened White community to make the inner cities into occupied territories. And it is the power structure's answer to our demands for jobs, housing and food we can afford, decent education and adequate medical care. □

ON THE STREET

"Do You Think The Police T.V. Shows Truly Reflect The Way The Police Act In The Community?"



Red Wilson
922 W. Leland

"Are you talking about Chicago? Take Kojak, for instance. When they arrest somebody they go up and say, 'You know you have to read the man *his* rights.' And they take him down to jail, and they let him call his lawyer. Now that's the way the television shows it. Now here is the real version: 'Get your ass in the car, fella. You ain't got no rights. Get in here, and get downtown; we'll take care of you later.' Am I telling you the truth? This is straight from the mouth."

Charmaine Morehead
922 W. Buena

"Nobody reflects like the Foster Ave. police. They harass you; you can walk down the street minding your business, especially Black men; they get thrown up against the wall, harassed for nothing at all. They don't even have a chance. They could be going to school, work, play, anything. I would like to see the police chief captain in one of my parents' meetings at the mental health clinics. I'd like to see the highest ranking officer down there when we meet every third Tuesday."

Kathie Wyatt
917 W. Agatite

"They're not really factual. They're more fiction than anything else; just for entertainment; to entertain the public. They're not like that in real life; quite as polite or gentle in handling the people they arrest. In television everything is real polite. But in real life they don't really 'would you please get in this car'; they just give you a 'helping hand.' "

Hardy Wilson
4208 N. Kenmore

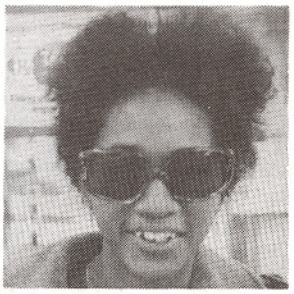
"They try to act according to 'Adam 12' and 'Kojak.' One day they shook me down when a photographer was taking my picture. The man was a photographer, owned all his equipment and his machines. I had sold the man a car for $400. They ran and chased us both down. I'm an honest citizen you see selling this man a car. And they think because he's got a camera and taking my picture, they think he's done stole the camera. Do you believe that kind of harassment goes on? No. This guy acting like Kojak thinks I'm an outlaw when I'm dressed like I am now. Do you think I look like a thief, a bum? No. I look like a working man. Of course, I do work for a living. I can appreciate that. This police harassment is junk."

Brenda Lewtz
4444 N. Magnolia

"Sometimes. There's one show where a guy is after one of Kojak's family, and so these two cops go out and find this guy and beat the s--- out of him and tell him, 'See what's going to happen if you go out worrying about Kojak?' Cops go out and beat the s--- out of anybody they want to. I've seen it happen."

J.B. Johnson
5225 N. Kenmore Plaza

"I don't care for none of them. None of them show the way the police handle you on the street. Well, on the T.V. shows the police go and track you down. But on the street the police will shoot you up whether you are the right man or not. They'll get you. They'll charge you. He's trying to make a record, a conviction. Here in Chicago they have a lot of brutality. They're just trying to get a conviction, I guess."



Carolyn Cowart
4640 N. Sheridan

"No. Why? Because they're not really showing the police brutality like it really is."

Diane Cosby
831 W. Wilson

"No way – no! It's phony. I mean when you walk down Wilson Avenue, and your five year old sees a cop kicking the s--- out of a man and she asks why? 'I thought police were supposed to be our friends.' 'Well, they are, honey.' That's a big joke. T.V. is a joke."

Terry James
4228 N. Kenmore

"They want to play bad just like on T.V. I don't think things around here are like they are on T.V. I think they're full of s---, if you want to know the truth. They got me in a corner one night, me and my buddy, and they were looking for his brother. Six of them take him in the car, and they're going to take him down on the lake and tell him they're going to beat the s--- out of him if he don't tell him where his brother's at. They're playing a Kojak scene. That's what they're trying to do."

Terry Miranda

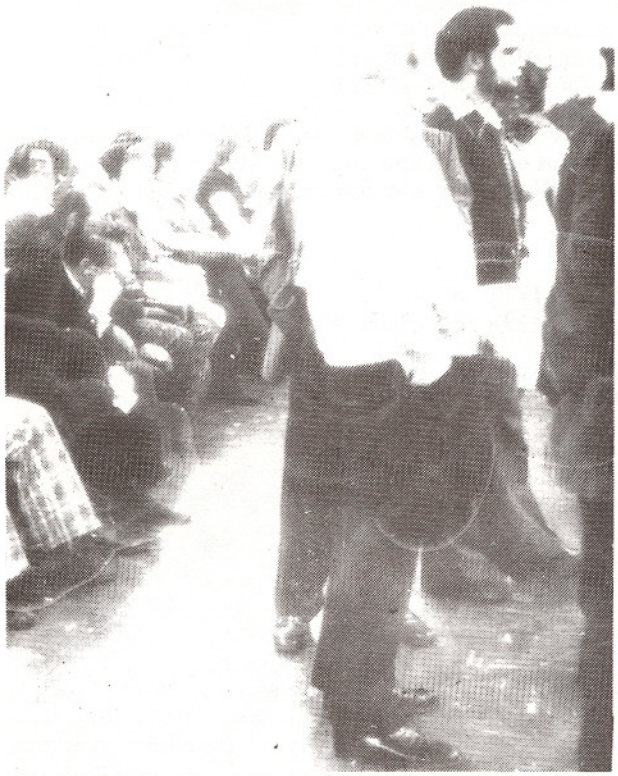
"No. The ones on T.V. are more for real. The ones out here are like sitting in a car playing with a yo-yo. The cops out here in the street don't do their job. All they do is sit out here and rap to girls while some guy is driving down the street 95 m.p.h., and they're still running their mouths off while they're sitting in the car. I wouldn't give you a nickel for a cop here in Chicago. Ain't no two ways about it."

WELFARE RIGHTS

No One Benefits From GA Redeterminations

In a continuing effort to provide people with information regarding the General Assistance redetermination process, *KEEP STRONG* this month talked to reliable sources associated with the administration of the review and community residents who have been required to participate in the redetermination process. As expected, the investigation substantiated previous charges of the review as being unnecessary and nothing more than a costly election gimmick.

The massive review of all Chicago GA recipients began February 12 with the stated purpose of cutting off 6,000 people who are currently receiving aid. The review is continuing over a 60 day period. All GA recipients are receiving a notice with their checks. This letter includes an appointment date, the address of the place (four regional centers have been temporarily set up) and a list of necessary documents and receipts to bring with.



A visit to the Northern District General Assistance Redetermination Center is very similar to a bad dream.

A visit to the Northern District General Assistance Redetermination Center at 4238 N. Lincoln is very similar to a bad dream. The old store front and former public aid office is crammed with up to 300 people half of whom are trying to hear if their number is being called and the other half arguing with intake workers who are obviously overworked and unable to provide adequate assistance for each individual. In a corner off to the side one of four guards spends his time writing numbers on slips of paper to give to the never ending stream of new people entering the building.

This situation is one of the most complex bureaucratic messes ever created. Since the state of Illinois has never bothered to print a GA manual, all activity is governed by memos from Illinois Department of Public Aid director James Trainor. A nine page memo containing over 110 steps is the guide to the new review process. There is nothing within the memo or the standard operating procedures which ensures the rights of the recipient. Absolutely no literature is being produced in Spanish, no effort has been made to update current addresses, and only the "cheating" by progressive caseworkers is keeping the situation from becoming completely unmanageable.

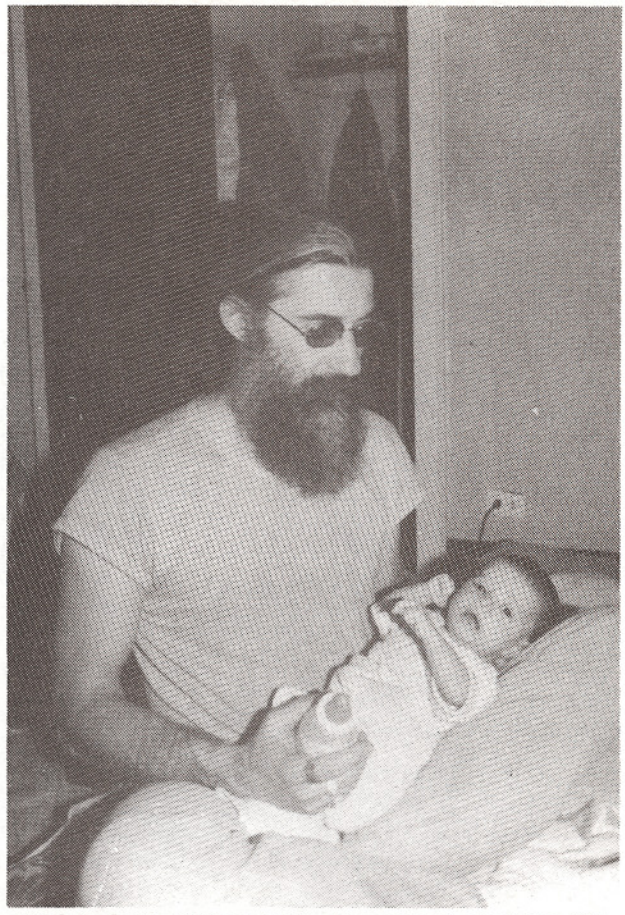
Within all this madness there are a few basic rules to remember; *first and most important, if a GA recipient has not received a letter or if a recipient has missed the appointment, he or she should call the district office. Do not wait on the letter as it will not arrive after April 1.* Second, the recipient should go to the office even if he or she does not have all the necessary items. Every recipient who goes to a center will continue to receive checks. Third, if the check has already been cut off, immediately file an appeal asking for compensation for the checks that were never received.

These rules do not apply to people who are not U.S. citizens because every non-citizen is being cut off. A naturalized citizen will be asked to provide citizenship papers. If these papers have been lost or misplaced the recipient should still go to the center and "actively cooperate" (show an interest in helping) with the verification process. According to General Assistance Bulletin 76.1 issued on February 2, 1976, no person

who is actively cooperating will be eliminated.

Sources close to the program estimate that within two weeks after the close of the review, GA roles will be close to what they were on February 11. "All they're going to do is get good statistics out of this thing; but the statistics will be outdated by the time the review is over. The whole mess was created to make Walker look good." At one point in the program caseworkers had become so upset over the entire process that a "sick in" was organized for Monday, March 15. However a memo from Trainor threatening removal from their jobs as well as no cooperation from the union stopped them from going ahead with it.

Absolutely no one has or will benefit from the review. Oppressed people have been sent on a souvenir hunt to get a ridiculous set of items, losing badly needed checks in the process; caseworkers have been run into the ground trying to keep up with the 700 person a day review; tax money has been spent in order to produce good sounding propaganda; and lastly, Governor Walker who thought up this great idea to begin with in order to win the March primary was soundly defeated in his bid for re-nomination□



"J.C." Stitz (above) won his appeal making GA eliminate the discriminatory difference between men and women applying for ADC.

Father Wins Struggle For ADC Grant

Last December *KEEP STRONG* reported the struggle of Richard "J.C." Stitz in obtaining an ADC grant for himself and his newborn son. Initially turned down, "J.C." continued to fight for his son's well-being and this month was awarded the ADC grant including back pay.

He had been refused on the grounds that he could not prove he was the baby's father even though he had the baby's birth certificate with his name on it as well as notarized letters from the child's mother declaring that he was unquestionably the father. They denied him on the basis of ADC manual topic 440 which states that the father of a child born out of wedlock is considered to be the child's parent only if paternity is legally established.

They said he and the baby were eligible for GA. Although you get a few more dollars for a family of two on ADC than GA, there are several more important differences for which "J.C." is fighting.

These things apply to ADC, but not General Assistance:

1. Dental care and eyeglasses are covered on the green card.
2. If you are cut off because you find employment, the state must continue to send a medical card for four months.
3. If you have a child under six years you are not forced to participate in the two work programs, WRS and WIN.

Richard filed for an appeal and at his hearing was awarded the grant. The decision has eliminated the discriminatory difference between men and women applying for ADC and has made it possible for men who desire to be more responsible for their children, to take a more active role in their development. In addition to the grant "J.C." is to receive $100 from the state for not being notified of his appeal result within 60 days.□

TENANTS' RIGHTS

Tenants' Control

"WE WANT TENANT RECEIVERSHIP OF BUILDINGS FOR CODE-DELINQUENT LANDLORDS."

"We believe that landlords who do not maintain their buildings up to building codes should have their buildings taken away from them and placed in the receivership of the tenants who would take over the management of the building, paying costs out of their rents."

Point #8 of the 10 Point Program and Platform for the Tenants Survival Coalition.

In those buildings where a landlord has proven himself incapable of managing his building by failing to make repairs, to pay utility bills on time or to provide adequate cleaning and garbage collection, the city of Chicago through its housing court takes the responsibility of managing the building from the owner and gives it to someone else called the receiver. The people who usually get appointed by the court are the so-called "friends of the court." Last year it was revealed that Heil and Heil, the firm that employed the mayor's son, received 90% of all the city's receiverships. These are the real estate sharpies, the shyster lawyers who hang around housing court waiting to get their hands on a building that is in trouble.

Michael Centanne is such a person. His finest hour was when he took over the building at 4051-55 N. Sheridan Rd. The building was owned by George Slobodian who had put all his time and money into it for 17 years. As he got older, he became less able to manage his property, and he had fallen on some hard times. The building was sent to building court.

As the bank started foreclosure proceedings, Centanne was appointed to "manage the affairs of the building." He managed to make a bundle off the ignorance of the landlord, the lack of organization among the tenants and the corruption of the court. He paid himself $25 an hour for every hour or part which he spent dealing with the building. He worked 72½ hours and supervised the repair of exactly one apartment. He was to be paid by the city, and his money was guaranteed. There was nothing in this entire arrangement that benefited the tenants of the building.

This kind of thing happens every day in this city where much of the housing, although structurally sound, is old and in bad condition. But it doesn't have to happen. Tenants who live in a building know best what the problems are,

If the tenants living in the 4500 block of Racine Street had control of their buildings through receivership, these buildings (above) may have been saved.

and they are most concerned with finding solutions.

Tenants are rarely appointed receivers of a building. With good organization, tenants can find attorneys to represent them in housing court and to fight for and gain control of their building. Credit and leasing institutions can be negotiated with to borrow money to make needed repairs, and tenants can cooperatively buy buildings after the receivership runs out. Tenant receivership is one method available to help ensure that a place is maintained in this city for oppressed people to live in.□

LEGAL RIGHTS

"They Stole My Car!"

"Nothing can destroy a government quicker that its failure to observe its own laws." So said Supreme Court Justice Clark in a 1961 decision (Mapp vs. Ohio) ruling that all evidence obtained in an illegal manner (a manner which violates constitutional rights) is inadmissible in state courts. This decision was one of a long line of court rulings dating back to 1723 concerning how law enforcement officials may obtain evidence.

According to law, a police officer may enter into a situation only if there is "probable cause." In theory this means that the police cannot stop someone on the street, go into a car, walk into a backyard, hallway, etc. on just "mere suspision" or on a "hunch." However, exactly how evidence may be obtained has never been well-defined; "probable cause" has been stretched, distorted and transformed at the whim of individual law enforcement officials.

On February 17 of this year Donald Burr of 4438 N. Racine and a friend were working on a car in the backyard he pays $5 a month to use. Donald had just purchased the car from his friend the day before and had put his plates on it. As they were leaving to go to the currency exchange to transfer the title and plates, two detectives entered the backyard and began asking questions. "They looked at the car door and told me it was stolen. We both told him I had just bought it," said Mr. Burr.

Donald Burr was innocent, yet police harassment cost him $174.

The two detectives were from the gang crimes investigation unit of Shakespeare district. Exactly what "gang activity" was going on is still a mystery. Dectectives Rodriguez and Geinosky placed both men under arrest for possession of a stolen vehicle and called police towing to take the car away. By 6 p.m. Donald and his friend were in jail at 2138 N. California and the car in the police pound.

The police, having had no reason to enter the backyard and to arrest the two men, released Mr. Burr's friend after four hours and reduced the charges against Burr to improper use of license plates.

At his trial, Donald's lawyer moved to suppress (not use) the evidence on the grounds that the detectives had no probable cause or justifiable reason to go into his backyard. The judge agreed, ruled that the illegally seized evidence could not be used and threw the case out of court.

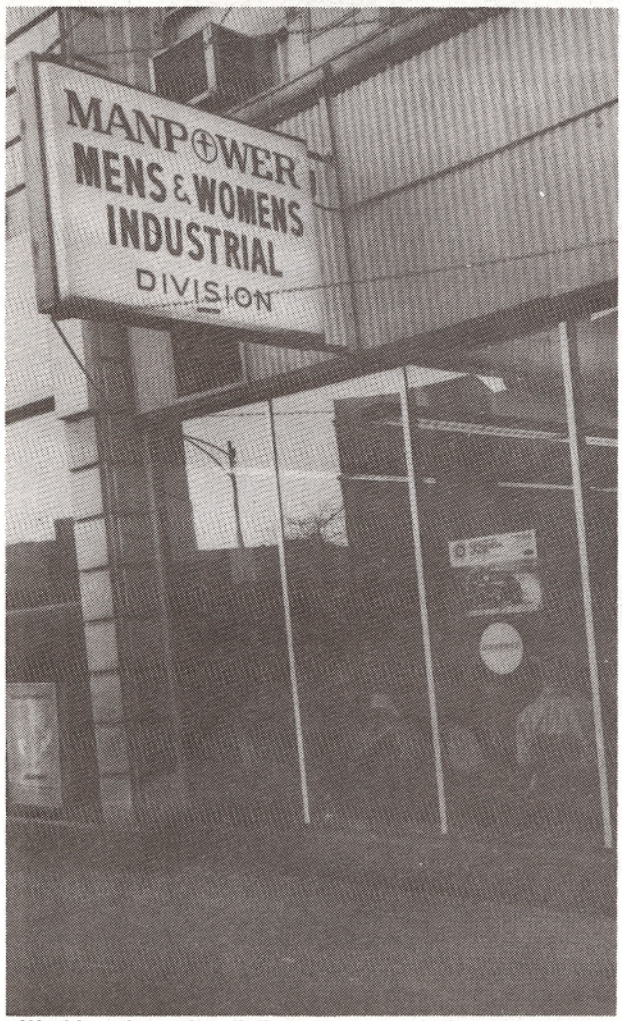
Donald Burr was innocent yet police harassment cost him $174. He had to pay $100 for a lawyer, $30 to the police for towing his car away and $44 to get his car towed back to his backyard. "The way I look at it, *they* did the illegal thing; they stole my car," said Donald.□

ON THE JOB

Daily Pay: The Top And The Bottom

Readyman, Alhelp, Manpower, Staff Builders — take your pick; they're all the same. At the bottom are the men and women shifted out of regular employment as the inner city's unemployment rate continues at 30-40%.

From 5:30 to 7:00 each morning over 500 people come into the daily labor agency offices in Uptown in hopes that they will be chosen to go out and work that day. Crowded into small offices, small buses or vans and small and large facilities, people are transported throughout the metropolitan area to work for next to nothing because there's no other work available to them.



Working through a daily pay agency is long and hard.

At the top are some of the most powerful men in business and government. Almost everyone has heard of Parker Pens. They are sold in most drugstores, stationery and department stores. Pens, however, are not the only thing the Parker Pen Co. deals with. Located in Janesville, Wisconsin, this company makes everything from pencils to glassware and tennis outfits. It also has become involved with the daily pay industry buying Manpower in February of this year.

With close to 5,000 employees in some 20 different countries across the globe, George Parker and his Pen Co. makes a profit of about $7,500,000 each year. George Parker knows that the federal government is the businessman's best friend.

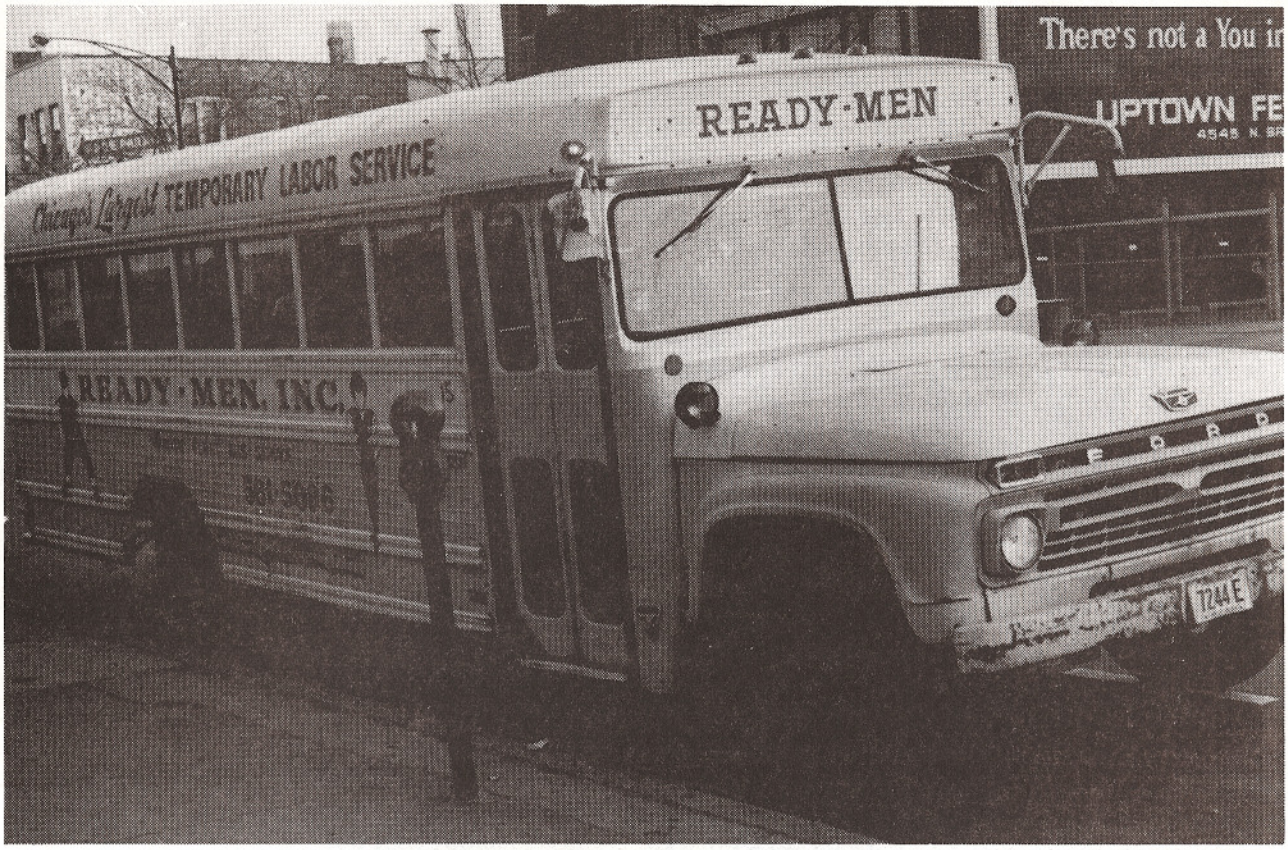
In 1968 while operating companies in both South Africa and Rhodesia, George Parker sent his brother Kenneth to Washington to join the Agency for International Development (AID). Exactly what Kenneth's job was in AID at this time or what AID was doing in Africa is not known. Parker worked with the Development Loan Committee a branch of AID which has given Rhodesia over $5 million and has come into investigations of its own concerning its connections with the CIA.

This "mission accomplished" in Africa, George sent his brother to Washington in 1973 to work for the Republican Party National Finance Committee. Kenneth Parker is still working with the Republicans, recently escorting Ronald Reagan around in his efforts to become president.

Working through a daily pay agency is long and hard. While the day actually begins at 5:30 a.m. (the time you have to be there in order to be assured a job) and ends at 7:30 p.m. when the buses return, people are only payed for their hours at work.

The daily pay agencies receive at least $3.50 an hour from the companies they send workers to. They also receive $1 dollar a day per person from the companies for transportation. The workers receive just $2.50 an hour and also have to pay the agencies $1 per day for transportation.

There are no unions at daily pay, and organizing is strictly prohibited. The dispatchers screen out potential "troublemakers", and there are no procedures for grievances, pay increases or other normal worker protection.□



Crowded into buses or vans, people are transported throughout the metropolitan area to work for next to nothing.

POLICE WATCH

"One Move And I'll Blow Your Brains Out!"

In the early part of this year, Uptown resident Ms. Dorothy Smith was visited by a well-dressed and well-mannered Chicago police detective. He had come to ask her son Bobby some questions. Ms. Smith was assured "that we don't want to arrest him, just to talk to him." Thinking that Bobby had seen an accident of some sort, Ms. Smith agreed to contact Bobby (he was living somewhere else) and have her son meet the detective at her house. Bobby is now in jail on a $2,000 bond.

A meeting was set up one night at 10:45 for Bobby to meet the detective at his mother's apartment. Ms. Smith had made it very clear to the detective that no uniformed Chicago police be involved. Earlier in the year Bobby had been beaten senseless by two policemen who had handcuffed him and taken turns beating him with another pair of handcuffs. Despite this previous bad experience with the police she was still willing to cooperate with the detective.

On the night of the meeting Ms. Smith called the detective to confirm that Bobby would be there. Ten minutes after the phone call two different detectives came and began kicking on Ms. Smith's front door, demanding to be let in.

Opening the door, Ms. Smith was brushed aside, and the two detectives searched the house. Finding nothing in the house, one detective stood at Ms. Smith's front door while the other went down the hall to her neighbor's door. Both officers had their guns drawn.

As Ms. Smith's neighbor opened her front door, Bobby came in the back door to go to his mother's apartment. Seeing Bobby, the detective at the front door shouted "One move and I'll blow your brains out." Ms. Smith, restrained by the detective at her front door, began yelling to Bobby to take his clothes off and pleaded with the police not to kill her son.

In a move that probably saved his life Bobby

did take off all his clothes except his shorts. Grabbing him, the two detectives began to take him down the stairs and outside. "It was in the middle of the winter, and they wouldn't let him put his shirt or socks on," said Ms. Smith. Asking what the charge was, Ms. Smith was told "How would you like it if I blew his brains out" and "How would you like to follow him to the morgue."

Bobby is now awaiting trial. Ms. Smith said she was stupid for trusting the police and would never do it again. Comparing this incident to other police activity in the oppressed community, Ms. Smith said, "What they did to Fred Hampton they almost did to Bobby."□

Daley Must Testify

Failing in their attempt to reverse U.S. District Court Judge Alfred Y. Kirkland's order that Mayor Richard Daley submit to questioning under oath about police spying in Chicago, lawyers for the city have been instructed to arrange to have an oral disposition taken by May 5.

Daley and several top police officials are defendants in a civil rights suit filed by the Alliance to End Repression and 31 other groups and individuals. The suit charges that police spying has violated individual rights of privacy, free speech and freedom from unreasonable search and seizure. According to the suit, illegal wiretapping, burglaries and inflitration of organizations were allegedly done under Daley's direction and with his full knowledge.

Referring to the city attorneys' contention that Daley should be permitted to respond to questions in written form, Kirkland said, "this would produce an endless stream of objections" by defendants and that the defendants "have indicated no willingness to cooperate in discovery matters in order to move this litigation forward." The judge said he saw no reason why Daley should be excused from routine court procedures.

Judge Kirkland also has ruled that the police could not invoke a so-called "informer's privilege" to withhold the names of police and civilian informants who spied on law-abiding groups. Following this the judge ordered the police to turn over undeleted copies of any intelligence documents relating to police surveillance of Alliance lawyers involved in the current lawsuit.

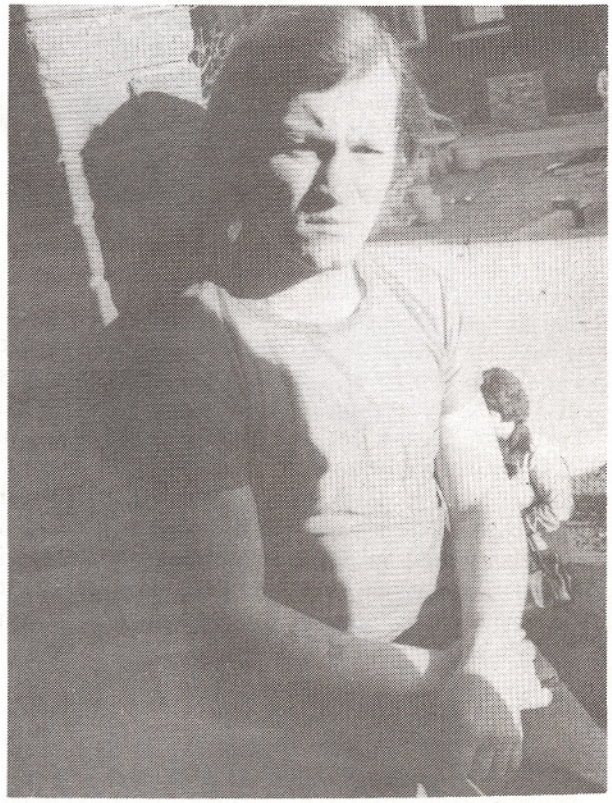
CRIMINAL JUSTICE

Federal Prisons: The "New Model" And The Old

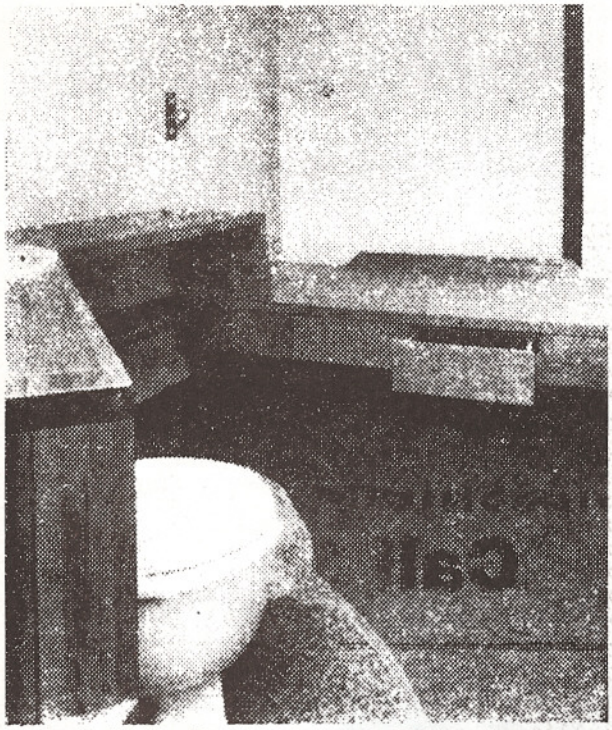
The federal prison system has a few special facilities for this country's Kerners, Erlichmans and Patty Hearsts, designed to bring as much comfort during incarceration as is legally possible. Then there are the majority of federal prisons reserved for this country's poor and oppressed people.

The Federal Detention Center which opened in Chicago in October, 1975 provides a fine opportunity to local politicians convicted of federal crimes to stay at home and continue their work with comparatively minor restrictions and inconveniences.

The center is a 26 story, three-sided building standing on Van Buren and LaSalle. The 384 people who will do time in the new center will be



Richard Patton, now 21, served two years of his life in prison and lost 3½ fingers.



The "cells" at the Chicago Federal Dêtention Center (left) have gray wall-to-wall carpeting and custom designed furniture done in light stained natural wood. The cell on the right is like those that house the majority of oppressed people in prisons throughout this country.

assigned private eight by ten foot rooms. Every two floors are made into a housing unit. The two outside rows of individual rooms are clustered around a central living core complete with eating area, exercise area, snack bar, study areas and separated television areas permitting inmates to have multiple choices of stations to watch on the color TV sets. The floors are totally covered in gray wall-to-wall carpeting, and the custom designed furniture is trimmed in custom designed vinyl. The built-in bed, desk and storage area in each cell is done in light stained natural wood.

In contrast to this the Federal Correctional Facility at Milan, Michigan was opened in 1898 and now holds a population 40% greater than it was built for. There are no color T.V.'s, no snack bars, no study area, no carpeting, and no naturally stained wood — just steel and concrete. It is in this prison that Richard Patton, now 21, served two years of his life and lost 3½ fingers.

Richard went into the federal facility in January, 1973. "It was very cold, and half the time there was no heat. We were supposed to get army blankets but most of the time we didn't get them." Life in Milan is similar to most other prisons housing poor people. The population is 75% Black, mostly from Detroit.

Any trouble with the guards resulted in the issuing of an incident report called "paper bullets." After three of these reports an inmate is brought in front of a "court" in which the "judge" is another guard, and the "sentence" is almost always time in the hole or extra duty. Petitions are sometimes circulated to change conditions, but "most of the time they just don't do no good. If the administration saw that the whole compound was upset, they made a little change, but it would soon go back to where it was before."

Richard worked in the prison factory on a punch press making everything from army beds to army issue wall lockers. He was employed by a federally owned corporation called Federal Prison Industries Corporation. He was payed 21 cents an hour and worked about eight hours a day. All the products produced were then sold to other U.S. government agencies such as the army, Department of Agriculture, etc.

The punch press Richard worked on had no safety mechanisms. It was operated by two men, one standing in the front and one standing in the back. On July 18, 1974, Richard was pulling out some material from behind when the man in front hit the operating button and 3½ of Richard's fingers on his right hand were cut off.

At even the lowest paying factory job outside of prison, Richard would have been entitled to up to $15,000 in compensation from the company. But Federal Prison Industries, Inc. is a special

company. Headquartered in Washington, D.C. the corporation, started in 1934, is involved in some 47 federal prisons across the country paying inmates a maximum of 65 cents an hour with no income tax or social security. The officers of this corporation (which is under the jurisdiction of the Justice Department) are a cross-representation of American business and government.

The board includes such people as James L. Palmer, retired president of Marshall Field and Co., John Marshall Briley, former department head in the Defense Department, Peter E. Bensinger, who ran for sheriff of Cook County, and George Meany of the AFL-CIO.

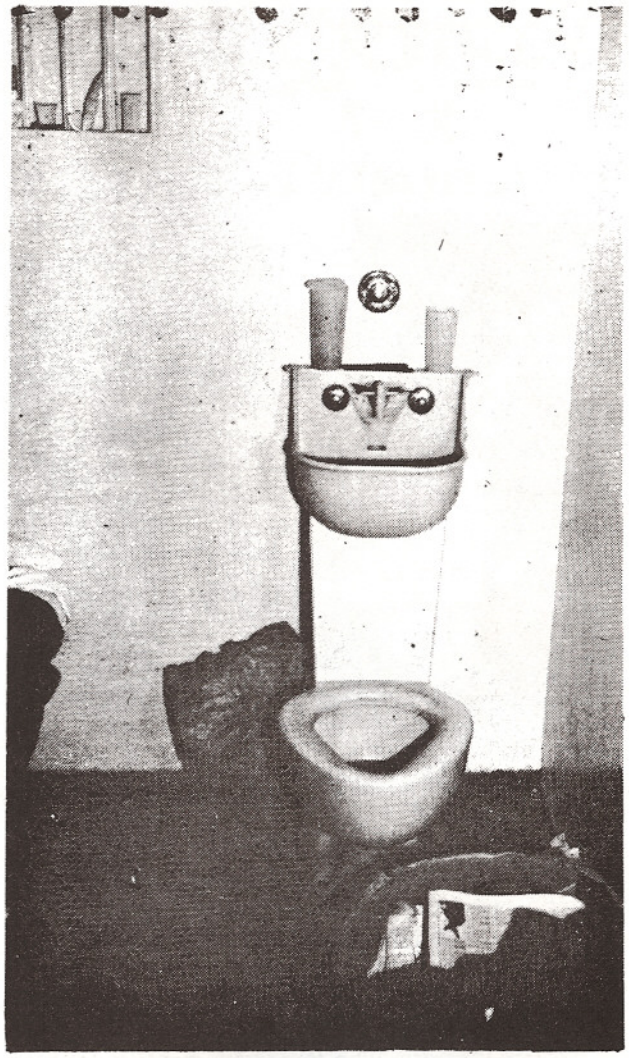
After his accident, the corporation took pictures of Richard's hand and sent them to Washington. The board of the corporation ruled that Richard was only 35% disabled, and the most he could receive was $7,000. Not once in the whole process was he allowed to participate. Richard accepted the offer. After the accident he was assigned as a clerk and then painter until his parole in January, 1976.

Unlike the new "model prison" in downtown Chicago, the Milan prison is the federal government's answer to the problems of poor people. "They call themselves doing justice by putting guys in the pen; once you're inside the pen all forms of justice are lost."

Arbitrary Practices At Joliet Segregation Unit

The Segregation Unit at Joliet State Prison has recently been the object of inmate and community charges of brutal and inhuman conditions. As in similar disciplinary units in prisons throughout the country, inmates are confined to their cells 24 hours a day. Showers and yard exercise are permitted once a week except during the winter when yard exercise is curtailed due to the cold weather. All food is served through the bars.

KEEP STRONG received the following report from a member of the Illinois Prisons and Jails Project's (IPJP) investigative team which makes regular visits to prisons throughout Illinois. In the incident described inmates are subjected to cruel and unusual punishment for arbitrary and racist reasons. According to IPJP reports, these practices are widespread throughout Joliet State Prison.



Segregation Cell

"During a recent visit to the Segregation Unit at the old Joliet State Prison we had the opportunity to talk to most of the 14 inmates housed there. One of the inmates was a young White brother Pat Celloni. He's from the westside of Chicago and is serving one year of a 3 - 5 sentence. On February 7 while he was eating lunch in C - House, Pat was struck in his head with a metal tray. The blow opened a wound above his eye which required stitches to close. A Black inmate who was in the general vicinity of the incident was charged by guards with throwing the tray and put in segregation. He has been attending school at the prison and was scheduled to graduate this June with an Associate of Arts degree.

"Pat was taken to the hospital to have his wound taken care of. He was asked to testify

against the Black inmate charged. Pat said he didn't see who had thrown the tray and that he didn't care. He asked to be taken back to his cell and was told he'd have to be put in 'protective custody.'

"A petition has been circulated and signed by 17 other inmates stating that they were present during the incident and that the Black inmate was no where near Pat when the tray was thrown.

"Pat was in segregation for a month and a half. The inmate charged with hitting him is still in segregation. There has been no hearing and no explanation by prison officials of their actions."□

HEALTH NEWS

HEW Promotes Sterilization Of Women

A new pamphlet being published by the Department of Health, Education and Welfare (HEW) advocating sterilization as a means of birth control is being criticized by Black and progressive organizations who maintain that sterilization is being used primarily against poor people — welfare mothers, disabled women and women of color — against their will. It has also been pointed out that there are often serious medical ill-effects of the sterilization process which women are not being informed of.

The 30 cent pamphlets tell men and women that "greater sexual pleasure" may be achieved after sterilization because of no fear of pregnancy. The pamphlets, which are written on a 6th grade reading level, are being distributed through HEW's family planning and subsidized health programs. Over 90,000 were distributed last year.

The two pamphlets written for women describe two types of sterilization operations, one in which the fallopian tubes are blocked and one in which the "tubes are tied." Both operations are almost certain to cause sterility.

While HEW says sterilization brings peace of mind, "and hence greater sexual pleasure," because "you never have to use a temporary method of birth control again such as the pill or IUD." A recent report by the Committee to End Sterilization Abuse (CESA) clearly refutes HEW's logic.

The thoroughly documented report points out an alarming rise in sterilizations. "Since 1970, figures show an almost threefold increase in the incidence of female sterilization, from 192,000 in 1970 to 548,000 in 1974," and this figure is rising. The CESA report also states that sterilizations have a 15% higher rate of serious complications as opposed to other forms of birth control such as the pill or the IUD.

Quoting doctors as saying "Unless we get those tubes tied before they go home, some of them will change their minds before coming back to the clinic," CESA estimates that approximately ⅓ of all women sterilized have regretted the operation.

HEW was directed by federal court order to print the pamphlets as a result of its illegal sterilization of two Black teenage girls in Alabama in 1973, the Relf sisters. Sterilization continues to be the "official government policy" throughout the poor communities and especially in Puerto Rico where it is estimated that by 1965 the percentage of sterilized women of child-bearing age had increased from 7% (in 1948) to 34% (one out of every three).

FIGHTING CITY HALL

Daley Clique Shows Fatal Weakness Despite Strong Showing

Richard J. Daley, former ringleader of the notorious Hamburger gang during the race riots of 1919 and now the mayor of Chicago, reached the height of his power during the primary election last month. The master politician virtually took control of the state of Illinois, relying on his power base in Cook County, as he unseated Governor Walker and placed a strong

state slate, sure to win in the general election in November. The win places Daley in a strong "kingmaker" position going into the Democratic Convention next summer and has made him a formidable national power.

In spite of the seeming takeover of the state of Illinois by the 11th ward Hamburgers, the machine showed a fatal weakness. Where there were serious candidates running who had proven their accountability to the community, the machine was defeated. *KEEP STRONG* reported last month that three candidates had been spotlighted by the Intercommunal Survival Committee, two for endorsements. In the first, Congressman Metcalfe defeated machine challenger Erwin France. Metcalfe won the support of the 1st congressional district, in which one third of the entire Black population of Chicago is located, by bucking the powerful mayor on the issue of police brutality several years ago. When Daley tried to replace him with a loyal machine administrator, the people refused this kind of plantation politics and gave Metcalfe a 2 to 1 victory.

On the northside, ISC endorsed candidate Ellis Levin carried an easy win for state representative against the machine's candidate. Levin had distinguished himself from the lakefront liberals of the past by spending long hours in the community, seriously putting his skills to work on community problems while avoiding flashy, star politician behavior.

In the third race, surprisingly, Daley's crony and former law partner Joseph Powers was defeated in his bid for the state supreme court. While little attention is generally given to the judges races, Powers poor reputation as a judge and his collusion with Daley in "intelligence gathering" on community organizations made him a target of poor and progressive people throughout the city.

Observers are saying that in the middle of Daley's St. Patrick's day victory there are signs of serious weakness in his patronage army machinery. The election showed that poor and oppressed communities will now break away from machine control if there is any kind of serious alternative. Daley's local, state and national strength has been based on his ability to control the votes of Black, Latino and poor people generally. With indications last month that his control is slipping away, there indeed may be the dawning of a new day.□

Ralph Metcalfe

Observers are saying that in the middle of Daley's St. Patrick's Day victory there are signs of serious weakness in his patronage army machinery.

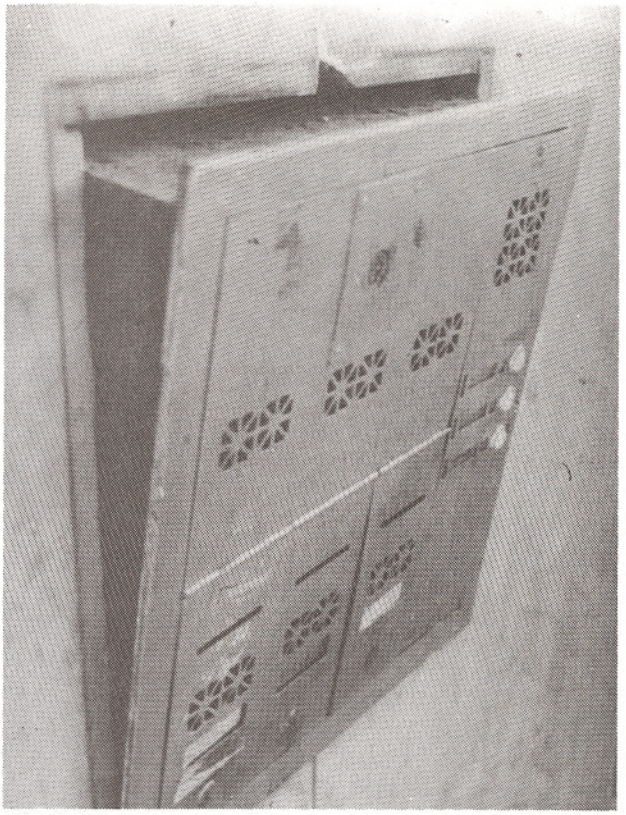
TENANTS UNION REPORT

Uptown Tenants Survival Union Grows

The speaker was saying "There is a conspiracy against our right to survive" as the Uptown Tenants Survival Union gathered for its March general meeting. He continued, "If we are going to survive, we are going to have to work together," and "working together" was indeed the theme of the growing tenants union last month as union members enthusiastically began a well-organized cooperative food buying operation. With food prices still rising, the membership agreed that something had to be done — and done soon.

By buying together members cut 20% to 50%

By buying together members cut 20% to 50% off the cost of items purchased through the union.



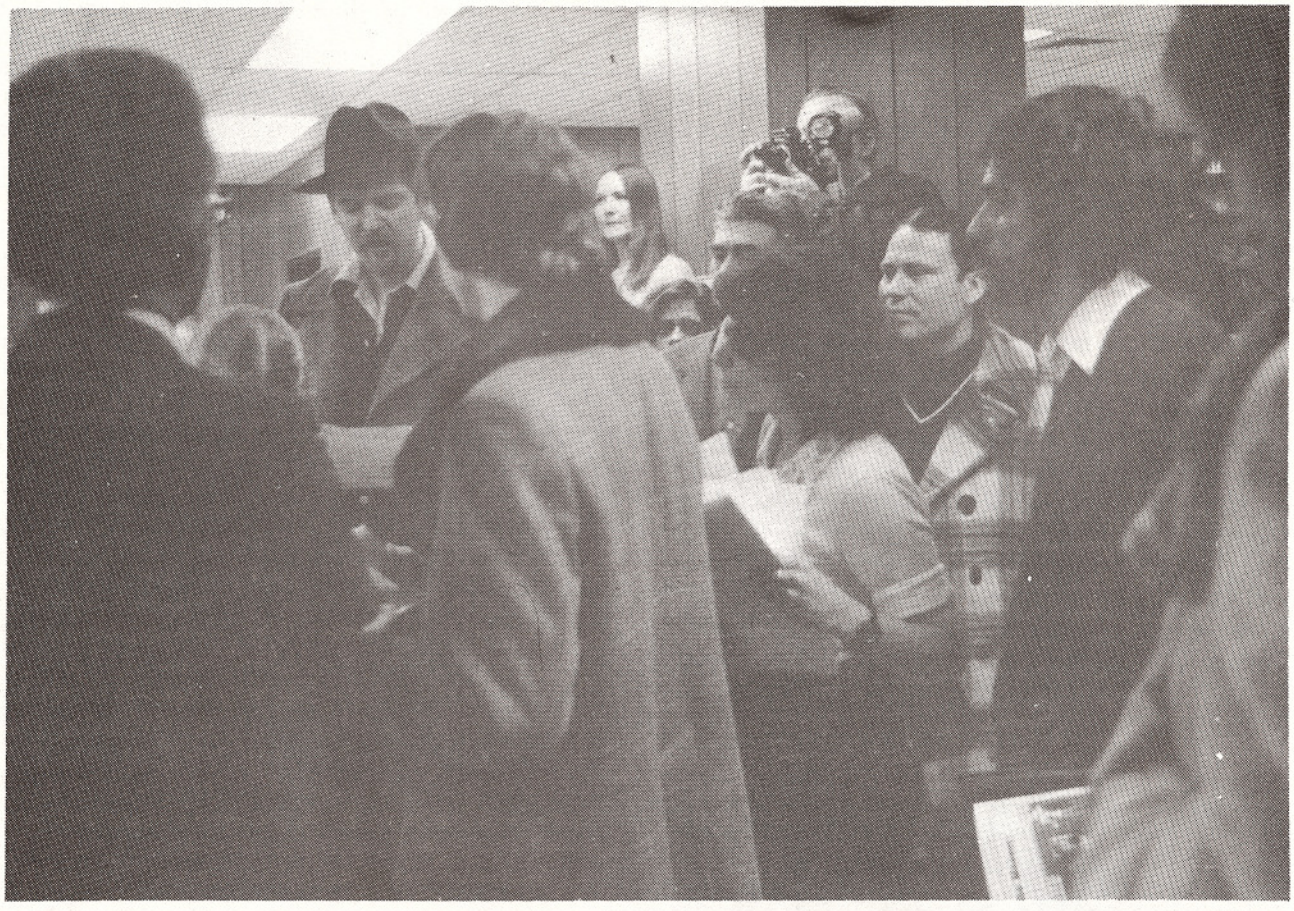
Tenants agreed to get the people together in each of their buildings to demand that the landlord come up with the money for new mailboxes.

off the cost of items purchased through the union. Different from some food coops that have been aimed at middle class couples with high priced luxury items, the union coop works to provide staples at big savings. Potatoes, selling throughout Chicago at 18 cents to 20 cents a pound were available through the union at 10 cents a pound. And eggs going in the store from 90 cents to $1.05 went for 60 cents a dozen through the union.

The union board emphasized that there is nothing magical or complicated about the coop. It is just a matter of pooling our community resources together for better buying power.

Also at last month's meeting the union board presented a plan to correct the mounting problem of stolen welfare, unemployment and social security checks. Noting that a stack of checks had been found in one Uptown slumlord's possession recently, speakers suggested that stealing these too small but desperately needed checks is part of organized activity for some groups of men exploiting our community.

The board's stolen checks plan calls for the installation of security mailboxes to replace the broken down "pop-top again" mailboxes found in



During the well-covered press conference last month, UTSU community and tenant leaders denounced CHA's "Section 8" program as totally inadequate and an insult to the hopes raised for rent subsidies by the program's rhetoric.

most of Uptown's buildings. The landlord has a legal responsibility to provide secure delivery of mail, and the union can now provide excellent mailboxes along with a community contractor to install them at a reasonable cost. Tenants agreed to get the people together in each of their buildings to demand that the landlord come up with the money for the new mailboxes. If he refused, some said they would suggest withholding the money from the rent and presenting the landlord with a receipt for the mailboxes and installation costs.

The tenants union, whose membership doubled over the last month, is concentrating on solving these day to day survival problems while it continues to support broader action like the civil suit against giant developer Bill Thompson. Attorney James Chapman, general counsel for the 46th Ward Community Service Center, reported that the suit was progressing well in its attempt to force Thompson to replace destroyed low-income housing and block his high rise development planned for the Broadway-Montrose area. Chapman emphasized that newly prepared research developed by suit participants will prove beyond a doubt in court that the city's urban renewal and zoning and development policies represent a conspiracy to drive low-income residents from the inner city.

Future plans for the union include a fund-raising dance in May, an Uptown tenants education conference in June and participation in the August city-wide tenants convention. One of the issues certain to be raised next August at the convention will be the "Section 8" rent assistance program. Earlier last month UTSU joined with 15 other organizations in a press conference at Chicago Housing Authority offices downtown. During the well-covered conference, community and tenant leaders denounced the program as totally inadequate and an insult to the hopes raised by the program's rhetoric. Of 905,000 eligible renters, only 571 were granted rent assistance by a highly suspicious and unfair selection procedure.

To quote the speaker again, "There is a conspiracy against our right to survive. If we are going to survive, we are going to have to work together."□

MINERS FIGHT FOR LIFE AND BREATH

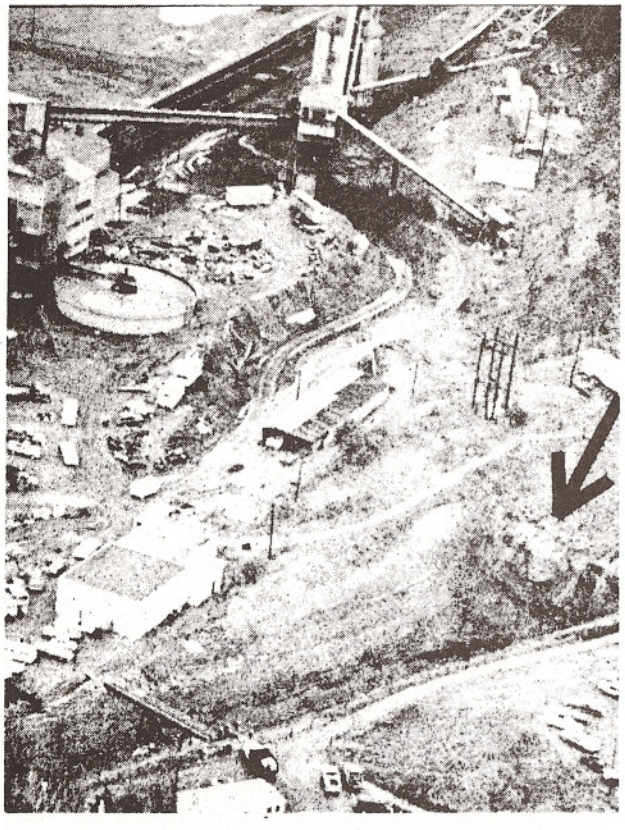
MINE DISASTER KILLS 26

U.S. coal operators often boast that American coal mines produce five to ten times the amount of coal per miner than do mines in other parts of the world. The price of this productivity, however, has been 100,000 deaths due to mine disasters since 1900.

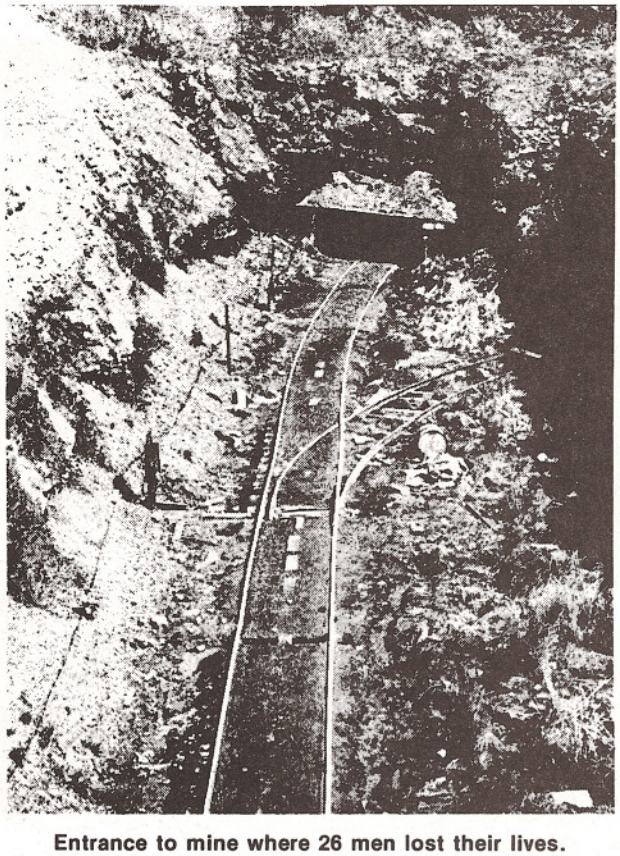
On March 9, fifteen coal miners were killed in an explosion at the Scotia Coal Company mine in Oven Fork, Kentucky. This occurred less than 24 hours after a federal mine inspector had cited the section of the mine where they were working for unsafe ventilation, high methane content in the air and poor dust control systems. Two days later eight more miners along with three federal inspectors were killed when a similar explosion occurred in the same mine that they were investigating to see if the shaft should be reopened.

Scotia Coal Co. is a subsidiary of the Blue Diamond Coal Co. which produces about three million tons of coal a year. Since 1970 federal inspectors have issued 1,250 citations for serious violations at the Scotia mine. On 57 occasions, they ordered the mine closed because of noncompliance with coal mine health and safety standards, and on 21 occasions it was because of imminent danger. Even so, the entire enforcement effort by the Mine Enforcement and Safety Administration has given mine operators no more than a slap on the wrist for violating the law and endangering the lives of the miners.

Families and friends of miners await news of rescue efforts at Scotia mine after blasts killed 26.



Aerial view of Blue Diamond Coal Company property.



Entrance to mine where 26 men lost their lives.

Miners who worked at the Scotia mine have stated that their superiors often tricked federal inspectors into thinking that the mine was safer than it was. They said that the air quality in the mine improved only when federal inspectors were on the scene. They said that whenever it was learned that an inspector was on his way, curtains designed to channel fresh air to the mining face suddenly were installed; "as soon as the inspectors left, you would never see a curtain again."

As observers at the scene of the disaster noted, the average age of the miners killed at Scotia was 27. "Miners with more experience try their damnedest to get into a safer mine." Officials of the United Mine Workers Association (UMWA) also stated that if miners had received proper safety training at least six lives could have been saved. (Scotia has a company union and is not yet represented in the UMWA.) Vowing to organize all miners in eastern Kentucky, in order to prevent future mining disasters, union officials stated that Scotia and its parent company have been fighting efforts by the UMWA to improve the working conditions in the mines for over 15 years.

BLACK LUNG BENEFITS — ANOTHER DISASTER

Years and years of militant struggle by organized mine workers, organized families of coal miners and black lung associations forced Congress to pass into law The Federal Coal Mine Health and Safety Act of 1969. The law had two purposes; first, to force the coal operators to control the levels of dust in the mines and reduce the danger of the disease; second, to establish a program which would compensate miners and their families who were disabled due to black lung.

Since men first began to crawl deep into the ground to pick and shovel pieces of coal to use for fuel, the coal dust which fogs the air in a mine has seeped into the miners' lungs. Over a period of time the particles of coal dust become deeply imbedded in the tiny bronchioles (microscopic air passages connected to the lungs.) As the dust collects around the lung, sections of the lungs become hard and black, making it almost impossible for the victim to breathe, and truly impossible for him to work or lead a normal life ever again. This is black lung disease. It is progressive (gets worse as long as you stay in the mines) and incurable. It afflicts any person who has worked in a mine for any period of time.

Run by the Social Security Administration

(SSA), the program established was supposed to offer many thousands of miners financial security when they were unable to work. But this was not to be the case. The law left too much for the bureaucrats from the SSA to figure out on their own. Ignorant of black lung disease or the conditions in the mines, they figured everything against the miners who were claiming benefits. In the first two years 63,000 miners were denied benefits, 14,000 because their Xrays were supposedly faulty.

In 1972 Congress passed a reform bill which took the program out of the hands of the SSA and gave the responsibility to the Department of Labor. Things got steadily worse. The Black Lung Division of the Department of Labor has 150 workers to handle 20,000 claims per year. At a recent conference in Springfield, Mr. Robert Miners, Chief of Entitlement stated, "We are swamped; we have 18,000 letters to type and six typists in the office. We can't deal with all the cases. Each claims examiner has 1500-2500 cases to work on." The results of this mess read like statistics from a disaster. Since 1973, 60,000 claims have been filed. Ninety-seven percent have been challenged by the operators; 22,000 have been acted on, but only 1,000 have been granted by the Dept. of Labor. Congressman Carl D. Perkins, Chairman of the House Committee on Education and Labor and author of another recent and progressive reform law has said for the Congressional record that, "50,000 to 100,000 coal miners have been unjustly denied benefits . . . " As a result of the constant struggle of organized miners and black lung associations for justice and equality, Congress is now considering a new law which would further improve the black lung benefits program. Originally proposed by Congressman Perkins and labeled no. 3333, it stayed in the House Committee on Education and Labor for almost a year.

What resulted was a new number, HR 10760, with much of its strength removed due to the strong lobbying of the coal companies. The removal of essential parts of the law touched off wildcat strikes in mines throughout the country. The law is now in the Senate, subject of a major fight between the United Mine Workers Association and the black lung associations which are trying to strengthen it, and the coal and other fuel companies which are trying to weaken it.

Ignorant of black lung disease or the conditions in the mines, the SSA figured everything against the miners who were claiming benefits.

DEMANDS OF THE MINERS: B READERS

The miners want an end to the B reader system. A B reader is contacted by government to reread all Xrays that miners submit as evidence of black lung. They are paid millions of dollars each year and most of them know nothing about black lung; but if four doctors read an Xray and say a man has black lung and the government B reader looks at the same Xray and says no, the man is denied benefits.

PRESUMPTION OF ELIGIBILITY

The new law would allow for a man to be presumed to have black lung if he can prove that he worked in the mines for 30 years (25 in anthracite which is softer and produces more dust) The greatest amount of evidence says that 80-90% of the miners who work for ten to eleven years have black lung. The miners and the Black Lung Associations believe that a man should be presumed to have black lung after 10-15 years in the mines.

1971 CUTOFF

The present law does not allow men who worked in the mines after 1971 to use those years in their case because the government ordered the operators to start controlling the dust by 1971. This is a joke. Recent Congressional testimony indicates that there has been no real change in the dust levels in the last five years, and the operators really have no plans to do anything. The miners and the Black Lung Associations want the 1971 cutoff taken out of the law.

NATIONAL BLACK LUNG FUND

The miners and the Black Lung Association believe that a national permanent fund should be set up and that coal companies should be taxed a certain amount of money for each ton of coal they take out of the ground. The black lung benefits would come out of this fund. Presently the miner claiming benefits makes his claim against the last company he worked for, which is why 97% of the claims are challenged, and if that company is out of business then the government must pay the benefits.

OPERATORS' RIGHT OF APPEAL

Under the present law, the coal companies can appeal the granting of black lung benefits to a miner. This forces the miner to hire an attorney and can delay a claim for three to four years, because the coal companies will take their time

The Mine Enforcement and Safety Administration has given mine operators no more than a slap on the wrist for violating the law and endangering the lives of the miners.

and use their fancy lawyers to wait the miner out. The miners and the Black Lung Associations believe that the operators should not have this privilege.

OFFSETS

Under the present law a miner who might collect workmen's compensation for an injury (other than black lung) and who collects black lung will lose a dollar of black lung benefits for every two dollars he receives. This is unfair. The two programs are entirely different, and so are the disabilities.□

Much of the information for this article came from the Liberation News Service.

THE FEELINGS OF A COAL MINER

I would like to take all of the politicians who sat back on their ass and denied the coal miners black lung benefits for their work in the past.

I would like to take them all to live in a coal mining town and say now the tables are turning around.

And say now you crawl on your knees and shovel some coal. See how long you last in a coal miners' role.

I bet within a week they would be willing to say give these people their black lung benefits. Do anything — just get us out of this place.

Judy Branham
March 16, 1976
For the Chicago Area Black Lung Association

Judy Branham, staff assistant for the Chicago Area Black Lung Association.

The Chicago Area Black Lung Association will help miners, widows and children of deceased miners apply and fight for their black lung benefits claims. Contact Bransom Blankenship or Judy Branham at 472-1031, 4048 N. Sheridan Road.

BLACK WORKERS ON THE U.A.W.

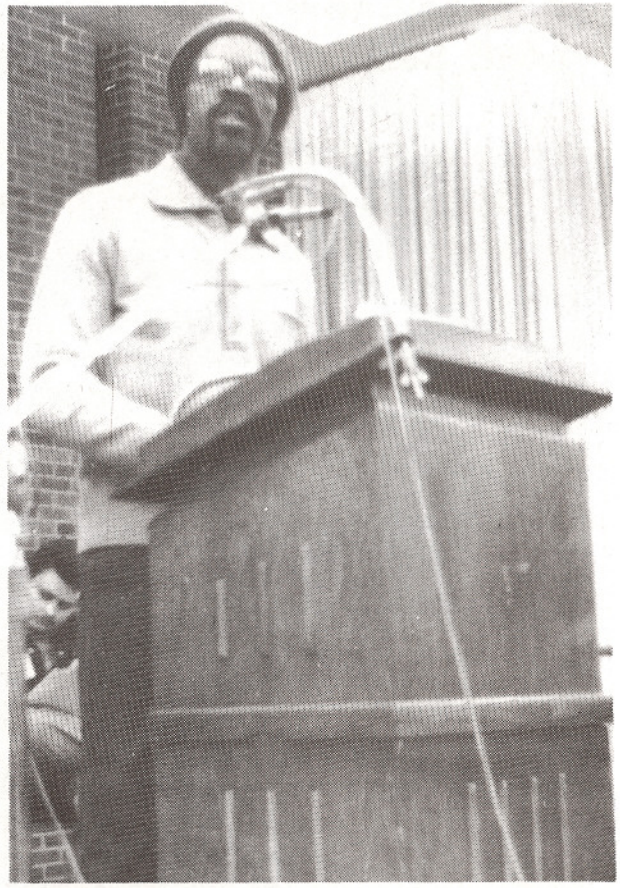
An Interview with Wilbur Haddock

The United Black Workers (UBW), an organization of Black workers, formed in New Jersey in 1968 in the face of hostile Klan and Minutemen activity. The UBW puts out newspapers, leaflets and a workers' calendar every year. Wilbur Haddock of the UBW explained after the exclusive interview with KEEP STRONG *that follows, "We try to educate workers about what's happening. So we would encourage them to do that and also we would like to learn from them — about what they're doing. What are their problems and how we can work together in terms of collectively struggling against the UAW and against the system that's oppressing all of us."*

KEEP STRONG: Wilbur, do you want to explain a little about what the UBW is and how it got started?

WILBUR HADDOCK: Right. The UBW was founded in 1968 at the Ford Mawah assembly "plantation" in Mawah, N.J. It was formed by a group of Black workers to address mainly grievances that Black workers had had for many years. There were about 4500 workers at Mawah at that time, and I'd say that 40% of the work force was Black workers. There were no Blacks in some of the skilled trade areas or in the lily-white collar jobs. Blacks were mostly in the body shop and in the grinding booth and the paint booth. We wanted to change this, and so we organized to stop some of the racism and stop the practice of keeping Blacks out of these cleaner and better paying areas.

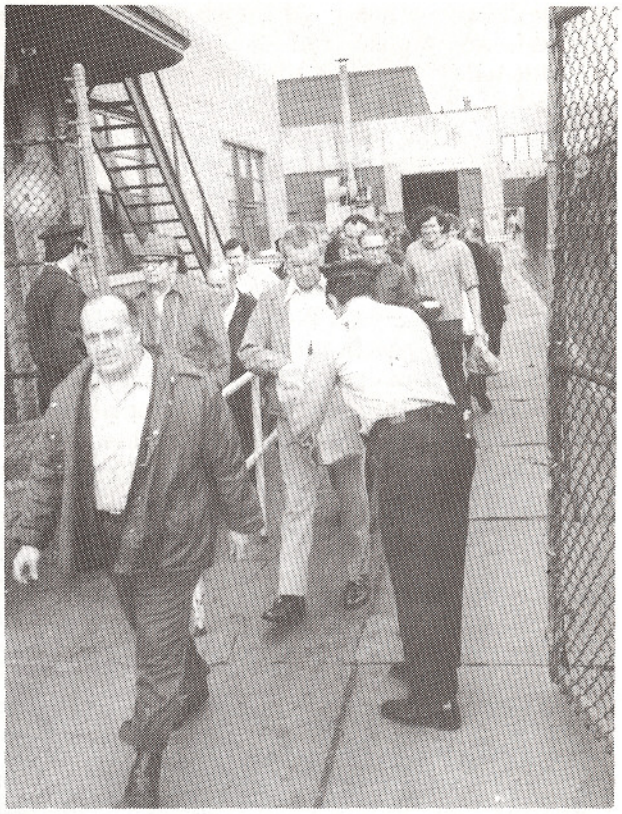
We organized primarily to change conditions. But as the pressures began to increase — because of the civil rights movement and the hysteria around the Panthers and what have you — the leadership of the company began to feel threatened by our methods. We had to tighten up on our organizing for our own protection. Mawah is 35 miles from Newark in very hostile Klan and Minutemen area. That is when we formed and the reason why we formed.



Wilbur Haddock: "There is still the problem of speed ups, loss of jobs, workers being forced to work overtime and of not getting the proper leadership from the UAW in addressing these problems."

KS: What are some of the issues that you are facing at that plant, and how do you think the UAW is going to deal with them?

WH: Well, I think the issues that we are facing are similar to what is happening throughout the industry. There is still the problem of speed ups,



"There has not been enough communication with different locals within the UAW — Ford, General Motors, Chrysler or American Motors and the other companies that came under the UAW like the Caterpillar plant, Harvester and Westinghouse."

of loss of jobs, of workers being forced to work overtime on Saturdays and Sundays, and of not getting the proper leadership from the UAW in addressing these problems.

This is the contract year. The contract runs out in September, and we're trying to hook up now with other locals around the country. We're trying to come up with a common strategy to put pressure on the UAW for a good contract that will slow the line down, that will bring some of our fired brothers and sisters back to work, that will get better pay, and will stop some of the racist treatment. Hopefully we will get the union involved in places like South Africa, in Latin America, and Puerto Rico. Based on what Leonard Woodcock, the president of UAW has said, we don't feel that he is going to come forth with a very progressive contract this year. He is mainly concerned about making jobs easy, some job security, but nothing about protection of workers, nothing about slowing the line down, and higher wages at this point.

KS: I think a lot of us who are from the inner city — White as well as Black workers — find ourselves in situations working in plants where we are the minority of the people and where we don't have control of the union a lot of times. What do you do in that situation?

WH: We had a triangular kind of problem at Mawah. When we began organizing in 1968, during a period of time after the rebellions, the company was hiring many Black workers from the inner cities. Once they began to get organized, then the company began to hire less and less Blacks, and they went to the Latin countries. They went to Puerto Rico, to Honduras, to the Dominican Republic. So, it meant a struggle began to develop between the Black workers and the Latin workers in terms of jobs, people getting hired, and not getting hired. We had to struggle to get that resolved so that the Blacks wouldn't see the Latins as the enemy. We got that kind of resolved but the company didn't stop there. They went to Haiti and brought Haitian workers in, and we had similar problems. Recently it's been women. For the first time in the history of the company at Mawah, they've begun to hire women workers. Now there is the problem of women and men seeing each other as the enemy, in some cases.

In terms of White workers, in the beginning when we first organized, White workers were reluctant to support our struggle. They were frightened of us. Many of them were living in the suburbs, with $10,000 homes and felt they would be in jeopardy if they got involved in our struggle. They laid back even though they had

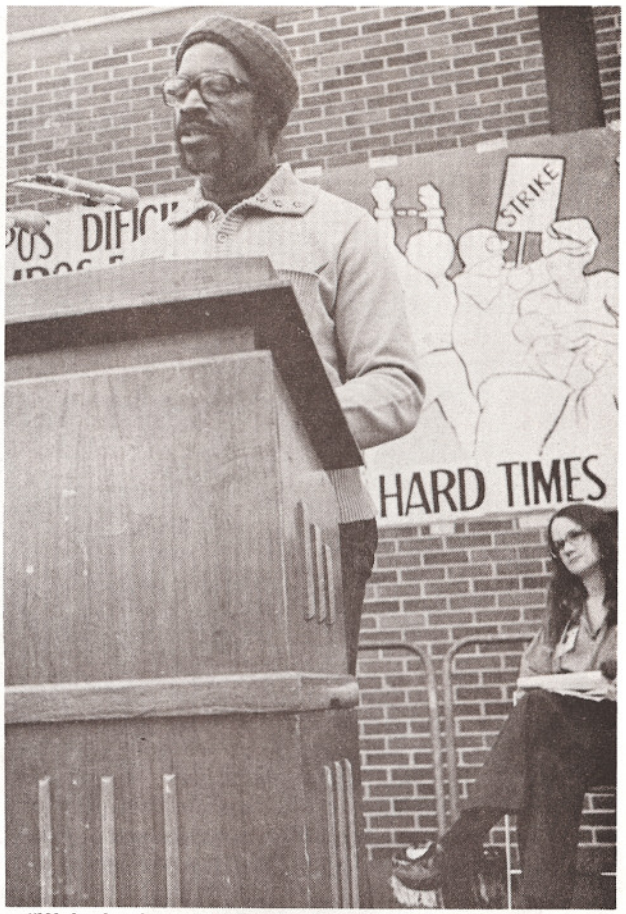
benefited from many of the things we had been able to accomplish from our work.

But today you have the younger Whites, those who have been to Nam and those who are more political, so it's a different situation. But we don't see a concentrated effort in organizing White workers going on. There are some political groups who call themselves organizing, but who haven't made a dent in terms of reaching the White workers. If anything, they are driving many of them away. We've tried to work closely where possible with the White workers. We don't feel that we can organize White workers, and we hope to see Whites organizing themselves, and then collectively we can get together to try to change some of the conditions that affect all of us.

KS: What kind of communication is there between the locals of the UAW in the same industries and also different industries? And, what kind of communication do you think there should be to bring some pressure on the international?

WH: Well, unfortunately that's been one of the main problems. There has not been enough education, communication, dialogue with different locals within the UAW — Ford, General Motors, Chrysler, or American Motors and some of the other companies that come under the UAW like the Caterpillar plant, Harvester, Westinghouse, some of the aerospace plants and so forth. None of us know what the others are doing. If you take it even further, we hardly ever hear of the struggle of the workers in Puerto Rico, in Africa, in South America, even though they are UAW workers, and we have been in contact with many of these locals — not only in this country, but Ford in England and in Canada and in Africa. As to Puerto Rico, we have in our own newspaper tried to print stories and articles about their struggles and help to explain to Black workers and Puerto Rican workers in this country, their wage scale and why there needs to be solidarity, international solidarity among all workers. The union must be forced to deal with this problem.

When you have a situation where we strike in one plant or one company at a time, rather than a general strike where all the plants — Ford, General Motors and Chrysler — are shut down, it's ridiculous. We don't have the kind of money to take on General Motors by ourselves. We take on General Motors, and our strike fund is lost. Then we tackle Chrysler, then Ford. It's stupid! General Motors knows this. Ford knows this. They sit back and wait 'til our funds run out, and we've got to settle on their terms. If we went down together — all three went down together —



"We're having so many problems that there's no reason that we shouldn't hook up and share ideas and methods of work; learn from each other."

we probably could have better benefits and more clout than if we would have taken them on one at a time. And this has been the process and the pattern by the union over years. And it's time that it stopped, and it's time that we deal with this question of hooking up our struggles. One out of every six workers in this country works in some capacity in auto. If all the workers come together we can make some changes; we could make a dent in what is happening to us on the job. It's important that this relationship is encouraged and it comes about. We encourage our fellow workers around the country to push for the same things in their locals. Look in Chicago especially, and in Detroit, we're having so many problems that there's no reason that we shouldn't hook up and share ideas and share methods of work; learn from each other. If the union leadership won't do it, we have to do it ourselves.□

For more information about the United Black Workers contact:
United Black Workers
P.O. Box 1855
Newark, N.J. 07101

"WHOSE BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION?"

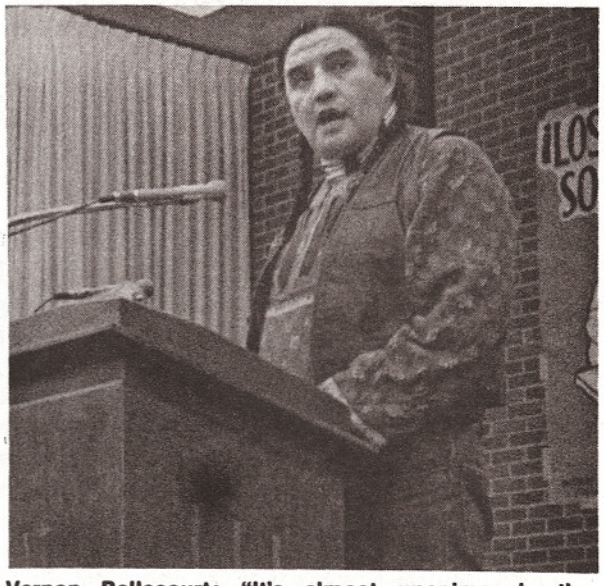
An Exclusive Interview With Vernon Bellecourt

The American Indian Movement (AIM), currecently engaged in fighting the extradition from California of Dennis Banks (see story on page 35), is organizing the broadest possible spectrum of people to participate in its counter-bicentennial activities planned for later this year. As Vernon Bellecourt stated this month during the following exclusive interview with KEEP STRONG, *"We're using the whole vehicle of the bicentennial to bring about worldwide attention to the rights and violations of the Native American people.*

KEEP STRONG: Has AIM been actively fighting the extradition of Dennis Banks from California?

VERNON BELLECOURT: Well, of course we have since Dennis Banks was apprehended by the FBI in El Cerrito, California. We have been organizing a broad spectrum of people who not only support Dennis Banks' fight to prevent extradition to South Dakota from California, but the people who see it as a human issue. Particularly during this bicentennial year, people in California see it in the sense that when their grandfathers and grandmothers came to this land looking for political refuge, in most cases the Indian people gave them asylum. What they're saying now is that particularly during this bicentennial year, it's a situation where an Indian leader, a leader of a national organization, actually a transnational organization, the American Indian Movement, is asking for political asylum, on the basis of a human issue, without even bringing up the politics of the issue. We are gaining a broad base of support to prevent the extradition of Dennis Banks. We are carrying out that effort from the San Francisco-Oakland-Bay area.

KS: I wonder if you could give us some idea how AIM and Indian people, how they are thinking about the bicentennial and what kind of approach they should take to it?



Vernon Bellecourt: "It's almost unanimously the position of Indian people that we should not participate in the bicentennial."

VB: Well, first of all almost unanimously it's the position of Indian people that we should not participate in the bicentennial. To participate in the bicentennial is to say that the U.S. has something to celebrate. And for Indian people to then participate in the bicentennial celebration they are actually celebrating the new destruction of this Indian civilization here, these Red people. Those who can understand it in that light — those people who have indicated that they are going to participate — and it's a very small segment of our population — once they understand it this way it's doubtful they will participate to a degree that's showing support. There have been tribal groups, various tribal councils across the country, urban organizations which have applied for bicentennial funds to be able to direct some of the funding into their community in the way of social functions they themselves are going to bring Indian people together around. Certainly when they entered into it in that spirit we aren't in direct opposition as long as they remember as

they bring their people together that it's not to support the bicentennial celebration.

Certainly we have been fighting a struggle for survival for 485 years or ever since 1492, when the first European invader started to encroach into our sacred lands. We see near destruction of this civilization that took place before Indian people started to resist that destruction — the continued theft of our lands, our timber, our resources. Right now reservations in the states of North and South Dakota, Wyoming, Montana are scheduled to be stripmined, to desecrate the earth to get at what has become the largest deposits of coal, the lands that we were forced on at the point of a rifle in most cases, that was arid or semi-arid. The White man didn't want this land. Now they have found these lands hold vast riches of coal that the government needs to continue to keep the military-industrial complex going and which they are going to have to exploit to become independent, energy-wise.

When you see this fact, that the continued destruction of our civilization is taking place, then for sure as we have stated before — we are calling on all Native People to support the Native People's Counter-Bicentennial to re-educate not only our people, but to re-educate the masses of American people. When they look at where we are coming from — with the Watergate corruption, corruption of the CIA, corruption of the FBI, this government involvement in the assassination of foreign leaders throughout the world — when we see this and add all these things up, I think people will agree with us that America has nothing to celebrate. We're calling on the workers, we're calling on the Black struggle, the Chicanos, the Puerto Rican people, who we have a very strong alliance with on the whole issue of bicentennial, and of course Asian Americans. We're calling on all people to stand with the American Indian Movement who are frankly the real Americans, the colonized, the sovereign people, to assist us in bringing about worldwide focus on the hypocrisy of what the bicentennial commission in this country is trying to do. We believe very strongly that it's mass hypnosis. If they can get people involved in gimmicks like wagon trains, freedom trains, plastic red, white and blue, they are hoping that people will then stick their heads in the sand literally and not see the corruption of government that's taken place. We're asking people not be duped, not be hypnotized, but to look at the bicentennial in its true light, as total hypocrisy.

KS: What kind of activities in particular are you asking people to participate in the counter-bicentennial?

VB: First, we're asking for Native People to support a spiritual march which is going to be known as the Trail of Broken Treaties Number Two; to support the survival of American Indians out of the northwest states for a mass movement of people starting in May arriving in Washington, D.C. and Philadelphia on July 4, 1976, as a counter-bicentennial effort. It's going to be a spiritual trek. It's going to be, as we said in 1972 on the Trail of Broken Treaties, a Pan American Natives' quest for justice. So, we are gaining a lot of support from Native People in Canada, and of course Central and South America are going to be made aware of this effort, so that we can put the proper focus on it. And we're asking people to join the counter-bicentennial march that is taking place. And if they can't do that, to become part of other kinds of projects that are going to be developed within their communities. In the Southwest our movement is asking people to join the retracing of the death march of the Navajo

U.S. marshalls lay siege to Indian lands at Wounded Knee, South Dakota.

"We've given our whole country; we've given everything. Even now, in this year of the so-called bicentennial, they wish to totally ignore us. We are not going to be ignored."

people from Fort Defiance, Arizona, to Fort Sumner, New Mexico. We're asking for people in the Southeast to join the people who are going to be retracing the Trail of Tears (the death march of many of the Eastern Nations) which is going to take place from Talipuva, Oklahoma, to North Carolina, then on to Washington, D.C. We're asking others to join a march that's being planned in Minnesota where we're going to retrace the death march of the Santee Dakota Indian people from Manpade, Minn. to Fort Snelling, Minn.; it's a 100 mile march. There is going to be a march in Denver, Colo. between now and July 4 to Sandcreek, the sight of the 1868 massacre to remind America and the world that this is what has happened in the past 200 years. So there are going to be similar projects like that across the country, and we're asking Indian people in their own community to support these counter-bicentennial efforts. Hopefully, of course, they will join us in the major march to Washington, D.C. and Philadelphia on July 4.

KS: So it's really a question of bringing it to the attention of not only this country but the whole world.

VB: Oh, definitely. We have an opportunity, and unless the world is given the opportunity to look at the treatment that this government has perpetrated against Native People, the colonized, the sovereign people here, we will have failed because even within the whole Bicentennial Commission effort, they have totally ignored the contributions that Native People have made. We've given our whole country; we've given everything. Even now, in this year of the so-called bicentennial, they wish to totally ignore us. We are not going to be ignored. We believe that the working class people in particular, of all races, are going to stand with us on July 4, and we're going to show to the world that the Native People are standing, are demanding their self-determination, are demanding an honoring of the treaties that have been violated, treaties that are international agreements, and therefore an international issue. The United States has always tried to say it's an internal issue, but whenever it comes to the colonization of people, it has to be looked at as an international issue. And this is what we're using, the whole vehicle of the bicentennial to bring about worldwide attention to this fact.□

MORE FBI COVER-UP IN HAMPTON-CLARK SUIT

Last month FBI special agent Roy Martin Mitchell occupied the witness stand day after day as attorneys in the $47.7 million civil suit on behalf of the families of Fred Hampton and Mark Clark and the survivors of the December 4 raid probed the FBI role in the attack on the Illinois Chapter of the Black Panther Party. Lead attorney for the plaintiffs, James Montgomery, is attempting to prove to a six person jury that the FBI set up the raid as part of a nationwide counterintelligence program to destroy the Black Panther Party and its leaders and then covered up their role in subsequent Grand Jury investigations. Then, towards the very end of Mitchell's lengthy testimony, a surprise development shocked the courtroom.

In Mitchell's attempt to discredit the Black Panther Party he referred to a report from the informer William O'Neal, who had infiltrated the Illinois Chapter at Mitchell's request. Although Judge Samuel Perry had ordered the FBI to turn over all files they had on O'Neal and the plaintiffs as they related to the Black Panther Party and the December 4 raid, Montgomery told the court that he had not received the report Mitchell was referring to.

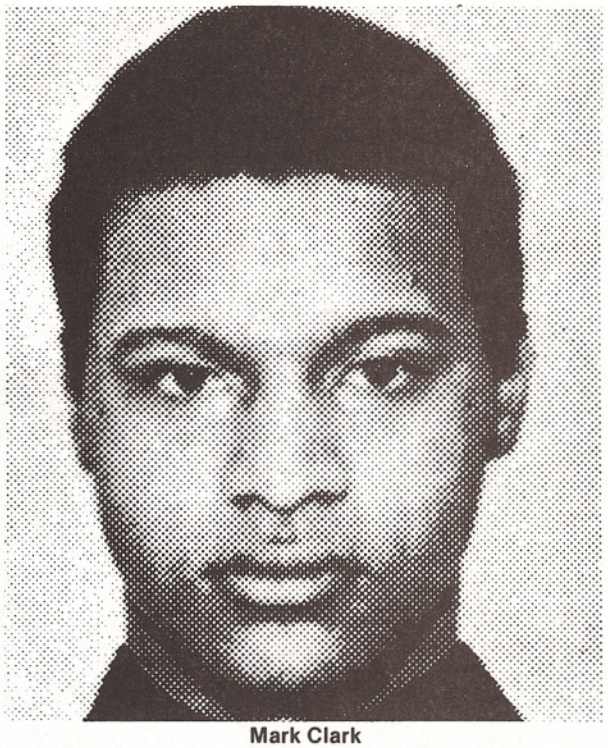
Perry ordered Mitchell to produce the report. Mitchell produced the report, and it was marked as part of O'Neal's confidential FBI file. Montgomery then questioned the good faith of the government in not producing all the files as ordered by the court. Perry ordered the FBI defendants and their federal attorneys to go downstairs in the federal building and bring up any files they had not yet turned over.

The agents returned with a stack of papers about two feet high, but on further interrogation by Montgomery, who remained cool and persistent throughout this entire process, it was revealed that still more documents were referred to in these files that the FBI had not turned over. The outraged judge who has bent over backwards to protect the FBI appeared as if he felt stabbed in the back. He ordered the federal defendants to produce all the documents relating to this case immediately. The government stalled until the next day.

Well-respected attorneys for the plaintiffs Herbert Reid (left) and James Montgomery (right).

On Wednesday, March 24, the FBI turned over

Fred Hampton



Mark Clark

more than four cartloads of documents. Court observers said that if the documents had been stacked up they would have reached some 40 to 50 feet in the air. The aging judge was confused and highly irritated. He told the jury that if this was any other case he would automatically award the plaintiffs the money damages they asked for and in open court cited the extreme "negligence or disorganization" of the FBI.

Perry is faced with a nearly impossible situation. To go through each document, striking out "classified" information, according to the procedure he had set up previously, will take months. The plaintiffs maintain that the hidden files are really no surprise and only prove further their contention that the FBI has done everything possible to cover up their role in the assassination of a brilliant young community leader. As *KEEP STRONG* goes to press, the trial has been temporarily stopped while Perry determines what he will do.

ROY MARTIN MITCHELL

Before the FBI admission of thousands of unreleased reports and counterintelligence plans, the plaintiffs had come a long way already in proving their case against the FBI. Mitchell had admitted contrary to other FBI testimony, that he was fully aware of the FBI COINTELPRO operation that functioned out of his specific squad in the local office of the FBI. He knew that the objectives of COINTELPRO, formulated at the national level by J. Edgar Hoover, were to cripple the Black Panther Party, its members and its leaders, prevent its growth, obstruct coalitions with other progressive community organizations and to "prevent the rise of a messiah that could electrify the black masses."

It was brought out that a file had been kept on the dynamic young Fred Hampton well before he started the Black Panther Party chapter in Illinois, dating to when he was youth leader for the NAACP. His every move was monitored; where he spoke, where he traveled and even his most personal relationships.

While Mitchell testified that he had "eight to ten" informers in the Illinois Black Panther Party chapter, the main source seems to have been William O'Neal. O'Neal was recruited by Mitchell, evidently, following his arrest for impersonating a federal officer. With a long criminal record and a psychiatric history, O'Neal was directed to infiltrate the Illinois chapter where he rose to the rank of chief of security. Mitchell instructed him to take a "militant stance" within the Party, urging the Party to "begin the armed struggle against the police" — although the philosophy of the Black Panther Party was clearly to arm themselves only for self-defense.

Mitchell testified that he used O'Neal on several occasions to carry out what he thought were the objectives of the FBI counterintelligence program, spreading rumors and attempt-

Several hundred progressive minded people from all over Chicago attended a benefit recently held in support of the $47.7 million civil suit filed on behalf of the families of slain Black Panther members Fred Hampton and Mark Clark and the survivors of the December 4 raid.

ing to undermine unity in the organization as well as coalitions with other groups. O'Neal's information was used to sabotage speaking engagements Hampton had and to set up many of the arrests Black Panther Party members were subjected to in 1969.

During his examination Montgomery drew from Mitchell the admission that the alleged "illegal weapons" that were used as the pretext for the 4 a.m. raid were never reported in written form until eight days after the incident, and reports of alleged federal firearms violations were never made to the Alcohol, Firearms and Tobacco Division, the appropriate agency. In fact, in a written report, just prior to the raid, Mitchell informed Washington that, according to O'Neal's information, all the weapons in the 2337 W. Monroe apartment were legally purchased. In addition, Mitchell obtained from O'Neal a floor plan of the Hampton apartment with an "X" marking the place where Hampton slept, which he then gave to Jalovec and Groth who headed Hanrahan's special police squad during the raid.

Mitchell was caught time and time again in contradictions in his testimony and between his testimony now and his testimony before the grand jury. While concealing the FBI role in encouraging Hanrahan's office to conduct the raid and providing them with a floor plan, Mitchell testified to the federal grand jury that Black Panther Party members were under instructions to "get off at least one shot" when confronted with arrest. This was contradicted by Mitchell's own internal FBI memorandum. Again Mitchell maintained that he had no contact with O'Neal since last summer, attempting to cover up FBI efforts to bring the informer's contradictory testimony in line with the official FBI story. But on close examination by Montgomery, Mitchell admitted that he had, in fact, been in contact with the informer, as recently as a few weeks ago.

While the jury sits listening to the contradictory FBI testimony, the mothers of Fred Hampton and Mark Clark and the survivors of the police "shoot-in," where four of them were seriously wounded, occupy the front bench of the courtroom. They look from the witnesses to the faces of the jury, seeking justice for their sons and comrades, now after six years, in the hope that the truth will awaken the people of this country to the kind of police state that lurks behind the facade of democracy, ready to strike any time poor and oppressed people organized to obtain what should be rightfully theirs.□

THE BLACK PANTHER

INTERCOMMUNAL NEWS SERVICE

PUBLISHED WEEKLY BY THE BLACK PANTHER PARTY

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25¢

The Intercommunal Survival Committee, publishers of **KEEP STRONG**, have been selling **THE BLACK PANTHER**, primarily to White people, for over 5 years now. Thousands are sold on the street, thousands more are delivered regularly to home subscribers. Articles from **THE BLACK PANTHER** are also frequently reprinted in **KEEP STRONG**. The many regular readers among poor and progressive Whites is testimony only to the relevance of this fine weekly paper to all oppressed people.

Of all the many contradictions and confusions that divide poor and oppressed people, racism is probably the most vicious and most destructive to unity and power. So much of the society we live in is shaped by the way it oppresses Black and Third World people, that to understand our own situation as Whites, it is necessary also to understand the situation of Black people.

The Intercommunal Survival Committee also believes that the concrete example of the Black Panther Party, the methods of successful struggle, the implementation of many survival programs serving the community, are models from which we can learn in defending ourselves, our families and our own communities from those who would use and abuse us for their own profit.

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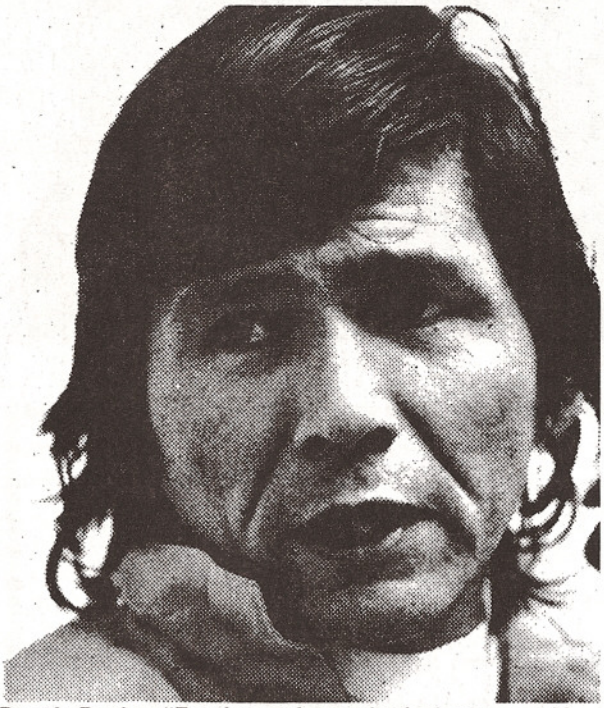
NATIONAL PERSPECTIVE

"Stop The Extradition Of Dennis Banks"

(Oakland, Ca.) A large multi-racial crowd of over 750 turned out here March 12 to "Stop the Extradition of Dennis Banks" and demand that all charges by the federal government against the American Indian Movement (AIM) leader be dismissed.

Sponsored by the Dennis Banks Bicentennial Legal Offense Coalition and the Student Coalition Against Racism, the gathering was considered to be a highly successful prelude to a massive march and rally scheduled to be held in San Francisco, April 3.

Banks, co-founder of AIM was arrested in the early morning hours of January 24, on a federal fugitive warrant by 40 FBI agents who, armed with shotguns and M-16 rifles, surrounded the El Cerrito residence at which he was staying. Banks had been sought by authorities since August 5, 1975, for failure to appear for sentencing following what some observers say was a frame-up conviction on riot and assault charges in Custer, South Dakota. State officials of South Dakota have publicly issued death threats against Banks.



Dennis Banks: "For those of you who feel oppressed in this 200th anniversary of America, think how we Indian people felt during the first 200."

Clyde Bellecourt, speaking for AIM, said that the average life span for Indian people is 43.5 years (compared with the national average of over 70 years); that 82% of all Indian people live in substandard housing with 76% lacking running water; that the average Indian's annual income is $1,500; and that the suicide rate for Indian people is seven times higher than the national average.

Banks speaking last at the program received a standing ovation saying, "People are running from poverty, running from slum conditions, running from substandard housing and seeking a decent way of life." For those of you who feel oppressed in this 200th anniversary of America, think how we Indian people felt during the first 200. This is our second 200 years, you know. It's been a long time."

Coalition organizers said the gathering was a "highly successful" prelude to the April 3 march, and an important first step in their attempt to build the broadest coalition possible to win the hearts and minds of the people of California and stop the extradition of Dennis Banks.□

Excerpted from The Black Panther

Nationwide Bicentennial Demonstration Planned

Ninety-two organizations representing 50 cities and 22 states convened on the weekend of March 26 to plan a counter-bicentennial demonstration in Philadelphia on July 4. The planned action is supported by a wide range of organizations prominent among which are the Puerto Rican Socialist Party, the American Indian Movement, the Black Panther Party, the United Black Workers and many church and union groups as well as community organizations and progressive people.

Juan Mari Bras, leader of PSP which has taken the leading role in the Puerto Rican struggle for independence.

The demonstration will take place at the same time that the government is holding its bicentennial celebration also in Philadelphia, where the Pope, the Queen of England and the President of the United States are expected to be present.

The theme of the "people's" demonstration will be the history of struggle of all oppressed people inside this country and especially the colonized people of Puerto Rico and the Indian Nations. The message will be that the only time concessions have been made to oppressed people, it has been through struggle. The organizations participating see this as an opportunity to show the unity of all struggles — workers and community people for jobs, services and their right to survive and national liberation struggles for self-determination and against racism.

Many of the organizations planning and supporting the July 4 action have come under consistent government attack. On March 25, Santiago Mari Pesquera, 24, was found dead on a country road outside Caraguas, Puerto Rico. A bullet shot from 12 inches away was in his temple. Santiago Mari Pesquera is the son of Juan Mari Bras, leader of the Puerto Rican Socialist Party (PSP) which has taken a leading role in the Puerto Rican struggle for independence. PSP has called the murder a political assassination and has declared that this attack on their leader, their Party and their people will only cause them to struggle harder.□

New Evidence In The San Quentin 6 Trial

(San Rafael, Ca.) A recently published study by a Stanford University psychologist has shed new light on the San Quentin 6, six Black and Brown political activists confined in the Adjustment Center at San Quentin prison here. Testifying as an expert witness, Dr. Philip Zimbardo delivered an alarming report, labeling prison conditions as "cruel and inhuman," certain to "spark uncontrolled rage and anger."

Despite the constant objections of district attorney Jerry Hoffman, eminent attorney Charles Garry who is representing Black Panther Party member Johnny Larry Spain at the proceedings, was able to elicit significant testimony from Dr. Zimbardo concerning the "impaired consciousness" defense he (Garry) intends to present.

The six Black and Brown defendants on trial are being charged with conspiracy, murder and various other charges resulting from incidents which took place August 21, 1971, the day of the murder of Black Panther Field Marshall George Jackson. They have all been confined in the notorious Adjustment Center at San Quentin prison since before this incident took place five years ago.

Throughout the course of the trial attorney Garry has consistently stated that the "inhumane conditions at the San Quentin Adjustment Center "plus "a long and established plot to set up and assassinate author/revolutionary George Jackson" were the causes of the bedlam which took place August 21. Pointing out again and again that the situation of the defendants is intolerable to human life and development, Garry, along with other defense counsel, is said by most observers to have riddled the prosecution's contention of conspiracy.

According to Dr. Zimbardo, a licensed psychologist, confinement in San Quentin's Adjustment Center is "so extreme, so abnormal" that it produces "a psychological state of dehumanization." As a result when additional stress is abruptly added to the situation, a temporary state of "impaired consciousness" can take place so that people act in irrational ways.

Courtroom observers and those close to the

Johnny Larry Spain, San Quentin 6 defendant and member of the Black Panther Party.

trial have noted that the San Quentin 6 trial which has already lasted eight months, has delved into the destructive nature of the entire prison system in this country, its grave significance and serious implications, but has been effectively overshadowed by the glamorous and well-publicized trial of Patty Hearst on the other side of the San Francisco Bay. The San Quentin 6 trial which is expected to last some time deserves the close attention of all oppressed and progressive people throughout this country.□

Information for this article from The Black Panther

New Trial Ordered For "Hurricane" Carter and John Artis

(Clinton, N.J.) Rubin "Hurricane" Carter and John Artis were released on bail here last week after the New Jersey Supreme Court unanimously ordered a new trial for the two Black men who were unjustly convicted of a triple-murder nine years ago. In overturning the conviction against the former number one middleweight boxing contender and his co-defendant the court ruled that the prosecution had concealed evidence that "substantially prejudiced" a fair trial.

Carter and Artis were convicted in 1967 for a triple-murder that occurred on June 17, 1966, in a White, Patterson, New Jersey bar. The prosecution's case was based on the damaging testimony of two ex-convicts, Arthur Bradley and Alfred Bello. Both men recanted their testimony in September, 1974, admitting they had lied in return for leniency in the disposition of numerous charges against them.

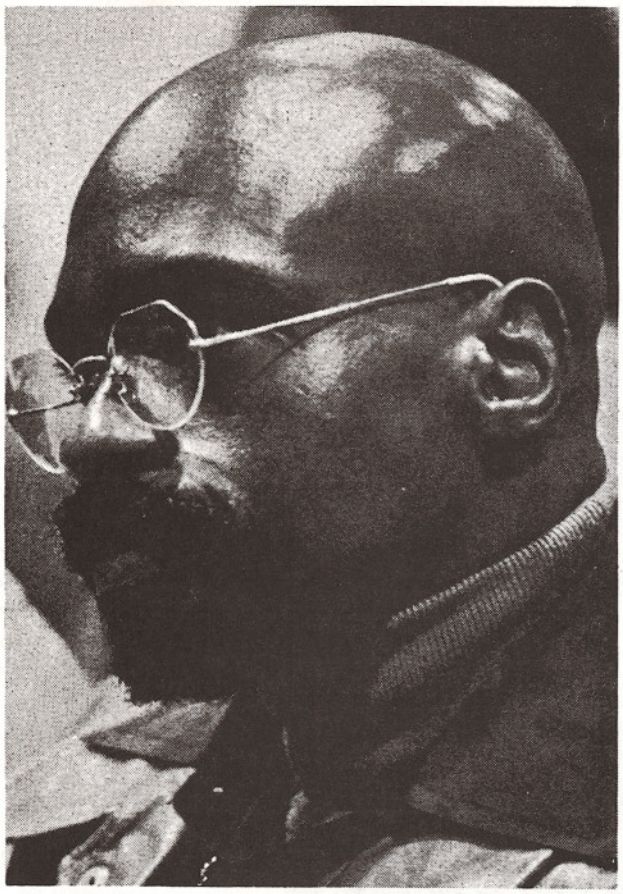
Even after the recantations, the original trial judge for the case (who has since been promoted), Judge Samuel Larner, twice denied motions for a new trial. However, on its own motion, the New Jersey Supreme Court decided to review Carter's and Artis' appeals after nationwide support for the two began to rapidly grow.

The major piece of evidence that influenced the court's decision was a 1966 tape — which was withheld from the defense — in which Lt. Vincent DeSimone promised Bello help in parole problems in return for testimony against Carter and Artis. DeSimone was in charge of the murder investigation at the time.

Speaking at a press conference at Clinton State Prison following the announcement of the state supreme court's decision, "Hurricane" answered a question about whether he was bitter: "I think you say I sound rather bitter because if I am bitter, then I have a right to be bitter . . . What you're seeing is a person who has become blind in this penitentiary for lack of proper medical attention, what you're seeing is a man who has been without his wife and daughter for nine and a half years for a crime he did not commit," Carter said.

Speaking from Leesburg State Prison, co-defendant Artis said, "I didn't expect it. For 10 years Rubin and I have been telling the truth, but from 1966 to now everything has been denied, denied, denied and I didn't look for any change."

Carter, when asked whether he would accept executive clemency, sharply answered, "I would accept my freedom anyway I can get it. If I had



Rubin "Hurricane" Carter: "I want everyone to know that Rubin Carter and John Artis could not, would not, and did not commit that crime."

my druthers," he continued, "I'd rather have a fair trial that's free from perjured testimony, that's free from the manufactured evidence that put us here (in prison) illegally. I want everyone to know that Rubin Carter and John Artis could not, would not and did not commit that crime."□

Reprinted from "The Black Panther"

$9 Million "Missed" By Food Stamp Bureaucracy

(Washington, D.C.) Charging that over five million people may be forced off the food stamp program due to "reforms" proposed last week by the Department of Agriculture, over 100 church, labor, civil rights and other groups have announced their intentions to file suit to block the proposed changes.

Ronald Pollack, of the Food, Research and Action Center located in New York, which will coordinate the suit said that the administration's proposals would be challenged on the grounds of discrimination against the working poor. Pollack also stated that the proposed changes would violate provisions of the food stamp law requiring an adequate diet for recipients.

Under Ford's proposal the "purchase requirements" (the amount of money needed to buy food stamps) would rise anywhere from 24-30%, workers on strike would not be eligible for food stamps, and all recipients responsible for children over six years must register and look for work.

While Ford's proposal supposedly eliminates "waste and fraud" in the program, a recent study has shown that 87% of the households on food stamps have an income below $6,000 while 97% have an income below $9,000. While virtually no fraud by recipients has been shown, the study goes on to show that the Department of Agriculture has located 18 food stamp vendors with undeposited receipts totaling $8,788,983. A portion of this figure seems to have been embezzled or spent, causing a source close to the investigation to say, "Some of the money will never be recovered. Some of it should be."

In a related development Congressman Frederick Richmond, along with 20 co-sponsors, has introduced a bill that will delay Ford's proposal until congress acts on any revisions in the law.

Richmond asserted that Ford's proposal "would remove over 6 million people from the program, and these would be low-income persons, the working poor, who have families and high medical expenses." The proposal makes no attempt to monitor the middlemen and bureaucrats who administer the food stamps and who have been reported to have defrauded the program of nearly $9 million.□

INTERCOMMUNAL PERSPECTIVE

Zimbabwean Freedom Fighters Prepare For Final Battle

"If we are able to acquire the necessary supplies for our army and people, we will be able to bring down the racist Smith regime within nine months," so says a high ranking official for the recently consolidated liberation forces in Zimbabwe.

The situation in Rhodesia (the name the White settlers call Zimbabwe) is getting desperate for Ian Smith and his racist government. In spite of stepped up attacks and attempts to subvert the leadership of the Zimbabwean liberation movement, and attempts to prop up Joshua Nkomo as a puppet who could speak for the Black majority, dedicated Zimbabwean freedom fighters continue to score major victories. They have recently been able to organize the United Peoples Army of Zimbabwe (ZIPA), to bring all dedicated freedom fighters under one army. Their numbers have grown extensively along with the increased support of the people. They have opened up large base camps in neighboring Mozambique with as many as 16,000 troops and are preparing for the final decisive battle. Guerrilla activity has increased tenfold in recent weeks.

Meanwhile in response to intrusions into its territory by Rhodesian mercenaries and racist troops of its regular army, the progressive government of Mozambique has closed its borders, ports and railroads to the Rhodesian government and industry. This has put the reactionary Smith regime in serious economic trouble in addition to its already precarious military situation. Rhodesia, which is landlocked, had been dependent on the ports of Mozambique for the transport of 60% of its exports. Samora Machel, the President of Mozambique, has said his country will not hesitate to enter into full war with Rhodesia if Ian Smith dares misbehave. Mozambique has received overwhelming African

Agostinho Neto, President of the People's Republic of Angola, triumphantly returns to Luanda, Angola's capital city.

African women participate in the liberation struggle.

African women at hard labor.

Ian Smith: White minority leader of the racist Rhodesian regime.

Samora Machel, President of the People's Republic of Mozambique.

Zimbabwean freedom fighters: "If we are able to acquire the necessary supplies for our army and people, we will be able to bring down the racist Smith regime within nine months."

support in addition to UN support for these actions.

The presidents of both Tanzania and Zambia have declared they are also in a state of war with Rhodesia and have called on their people to prepare for battle. Kurt Waldheim, the Secretary General of the United Nations, along with the UN Security Council have called on all nations to send aid to Mozambique to counteract any economic losses which may occur as a result of their actions against Rhodesia.

In Rhodesia, in spite of its desperate situation, the racist Rhodesian government has stepped up its suppression of the Black population. British mercenaries who have recently returned from Zimbabwe have reported massacres of African men, women, and children by the troops of the Rhodesian Light Infantry. Reports published in the *New York Times* tell of huge concentration camps imprisoning as many as 17,000 people in a desperate attempt to crush mass support for the Zimbabwean liberation fighters.

Using sensationalized statements such as "Race war imminent in Africa," "Communism soon to overrun all of southern Africa," or referring to Russian and Cuban "build-ups," the United States and Great Britain have attempted to mobilize worldwide support for their move to maintain some control over Rhodesia.

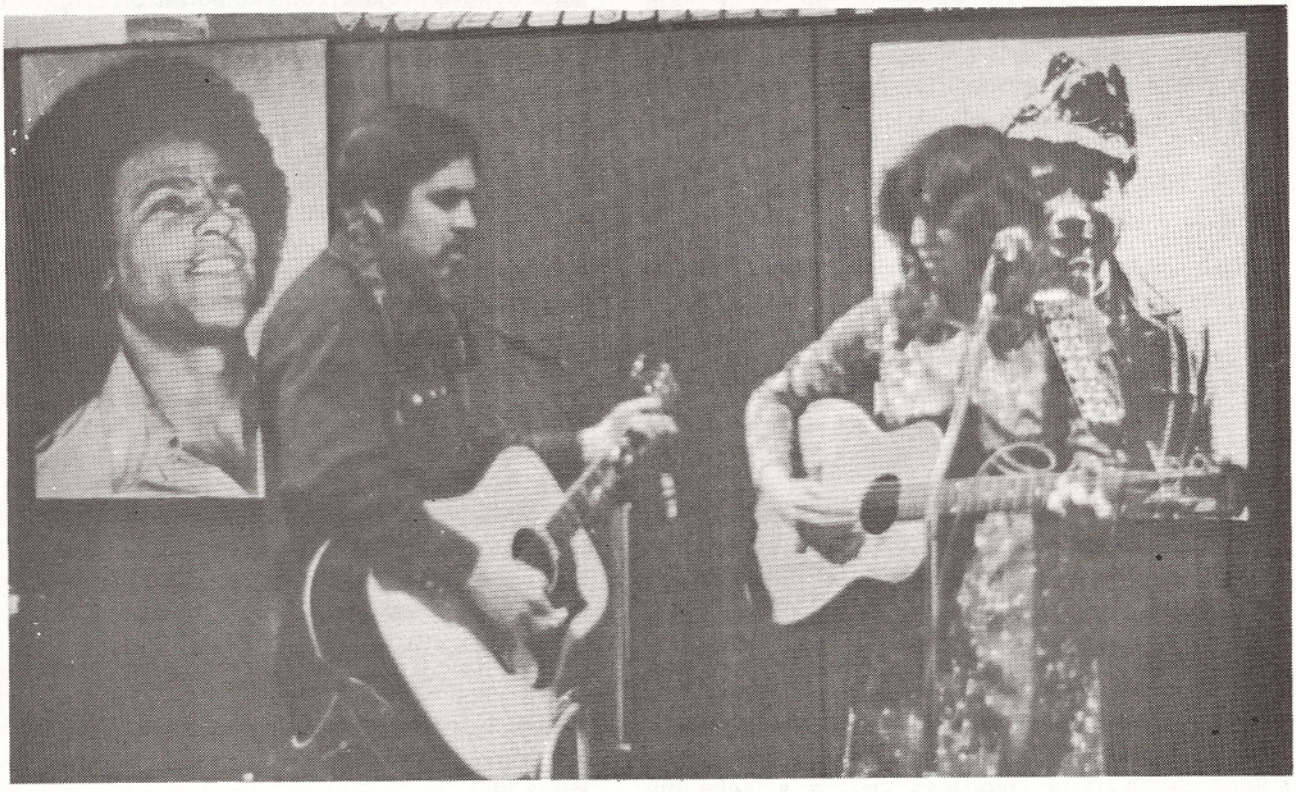
In spite of all this, observers agree that full armed struggle is inevitable, and by failing to see the writing on the wall, the Rhodesian White settlers must now face the consequences of the battlefield which can result in nothing less than their full destruction and freedom for Zimbabwe's six million Blacks.□

In all parts of Southern Africa, in Zimbabwe, Namibia, Azania and Angola, the people's organizations are scoring continuous victories in their struggle to gain majority control of their countries.

country music breakfast

Last month on March 6, over 150 enthusiastic community residents gathered for the Intercommunal Survival Committee's monthly Country Music Breakfast. A delicious, nourishing meal of eggs, bacon, sausage, fruit, grits, potatoes, rolls, juice and coffee was provided, primarily through the efforts of many community people who solicited donations from local merchants and did much of the preparing and cooking. Lively entertainment was provided by popular community singer, Kim Nash, who sang favorites such as "Revolutionary Love," "Changes," and "You've Gotta Move." Also on the program was Bruce King who was well received by an enthusiastic audience as he performed some of his original pieces. The highlight of the day was music by Ray Hillburn and Jerome Smith who played a wide variety of country oldies on the guitar and fiddle.

The Intercommunal Survival Committee holds a Country Music Breakfast on the first Saturday of every month at 4520 N. Beacon at 11:00 a.m. At the April breakfast "Baraboo," a popular Chicago country group, will be featured with Jerome Smith on the fiddle.



Popular community singers Kim Nash and Bruce King sing "Wild Wood Flower" at last month's Country Music Breakfast

ENTERTAINMENT

SWAT...STARSKY AND HUTCH...BLUE KNIGHT ...BARETTA...BRONK...JIGSAW...SUPERSTAR ...CANNON...FBI...ADAM 12...STREETS OF SAN FRANCISCO...IRONSIDE...MCCLOUD...MANNIX ...JOE FORRESTER...POLICE WOMEN...HAWAII FIVE-O...POLICE STORY...KOJAK .....

Entertainment? Bang, Bang! You're Good And Dead Now!

The number of police shows on television grows steadily, and some people are beginning to raise questions as to why. While some big time producers reply that "that is what the people want" and "we are just reflecting the nation's concern with stopping crime," others feel the programs are unrealistic and more public relations for police departments across the country (which refuse reform or community accountability) than entertainment.

"SWAT" is probably the most criticized show on the networks today. Allegedly based on the police special paramilitary unit in Los Angeles with the same name, the show typically has our heroes receiving a telephone call about a sniper, grabbing their M-16's and jumping into the waiting "war wagon." On the way to the scene of the crime they change into battle uniforms. The sniper is usually some "lone nut" (like the man named Lee Harvey Oswald who allegedly shot Kennedy by himself), and he is running around shooting innocent people. From time to time there will be a gang of "hillbillies" driving around raping women, but always our heroes are successful in "getting their man." The real SWAT in Los Angeles, of course, is the unit used to launch military raids in the middle of the night on Black Panther Party offices and has since then been involved in countless vicious attacks on legitimate organizations and individuals in the oppressed community.

Then of course there is the lovable lollipop bald-headed Kojac. You can count on Kojac, like the heroes of "Superstar" and "Bronk," to get tough with the "junkies, pimps and hookers" in order to get information that will protect the decent folk he is so concerned about. Interestingly enough, the pilot film for Kojak played on T.V. several years ago. In the pilot Kojak played an honest police officer who became "educated" to police corruption and brutality during the course of a case where a rape confession was beaten out of a young Puerto Rican brother in New York. The film was based on an actual case, Miranda vs. the state of New York, which led to the Supreme Court ruling that requires police officers to tell you that you have the right to remain silent when you are arrested.

Kojak, since the first pilot film, has evidently forgotten everything he learned as he leans on the "bad guys" while saving the fair maidens week after week.

The "Blue Knight" is maybe the most insulting of all. The show depicts a police officer who knows everybody on his beat, is trusted by everybody and takes pride in his neighborhood. He is like Dr. Welby in blue, but when was the last time you saw either a doctor make a

house call in the oppressed community or a cop walking around on the beat, talking with everybody and helping little old ladies cross the street? The police fly through our communities in patrol cars so fast that they are a danger to pedestrians!

Similarly our youthful stars Baretta and Starsky and Hutch aim to make the plainclothes cop look like he is constantly serving the community. Probably not one in a thousand plainclothes police live anywhere near the poor community on their $15,000 and $16,000 a year salaries. If they did grow up in the community like hero Baretta, they never enter it again without a .357 magnum in their hand.

Then there is Jigsaw John who "hates murder" so bad it drives him to be the best detective in the world, and your average policewoman sergeant Pepper Anderson along with the fearless "Rookies" and "Adam 12" who would never take a dime for a cup of coffee from the citizens they serve.

The biggest problems facing millions of people in this country are unemployment, school cuts, housing shortages, rising food prices and hard-to-pay-for medical care. The television industry's response to these problems is very much like the government's: give them more police. In fact, it is so much like it that it makes you wonder.

If you turned on the T.V. one night last month about 5:45 to channel 9 you would have seen one of the best police shows of them all. In this show citizens testified about the great effects of the beat representative program in stopping crime. An 18th district police sergeant was asked if the beat rep program was not really a spy system similar to that in nazi Germany. "No," he replied. "We don't do any kind of spy activities like that at all." The circle was complete. Instead of actors there were real police officers and real finks keeping their salaries coming in by policing the oppressed community like an occupying army. The channel 9 film was a promotion film for the beat rep program shown on that station's news broadcast.

Maybe there should be one more police series. It could describe a situation where police officers went to Klan meetings on Tuesday nights, and the commander ranted and raved about "cleaning the scum and trash off the Sunnyside Mall — the hillbillies, spics and niggers." They could call it "the Chicago Police Department."□

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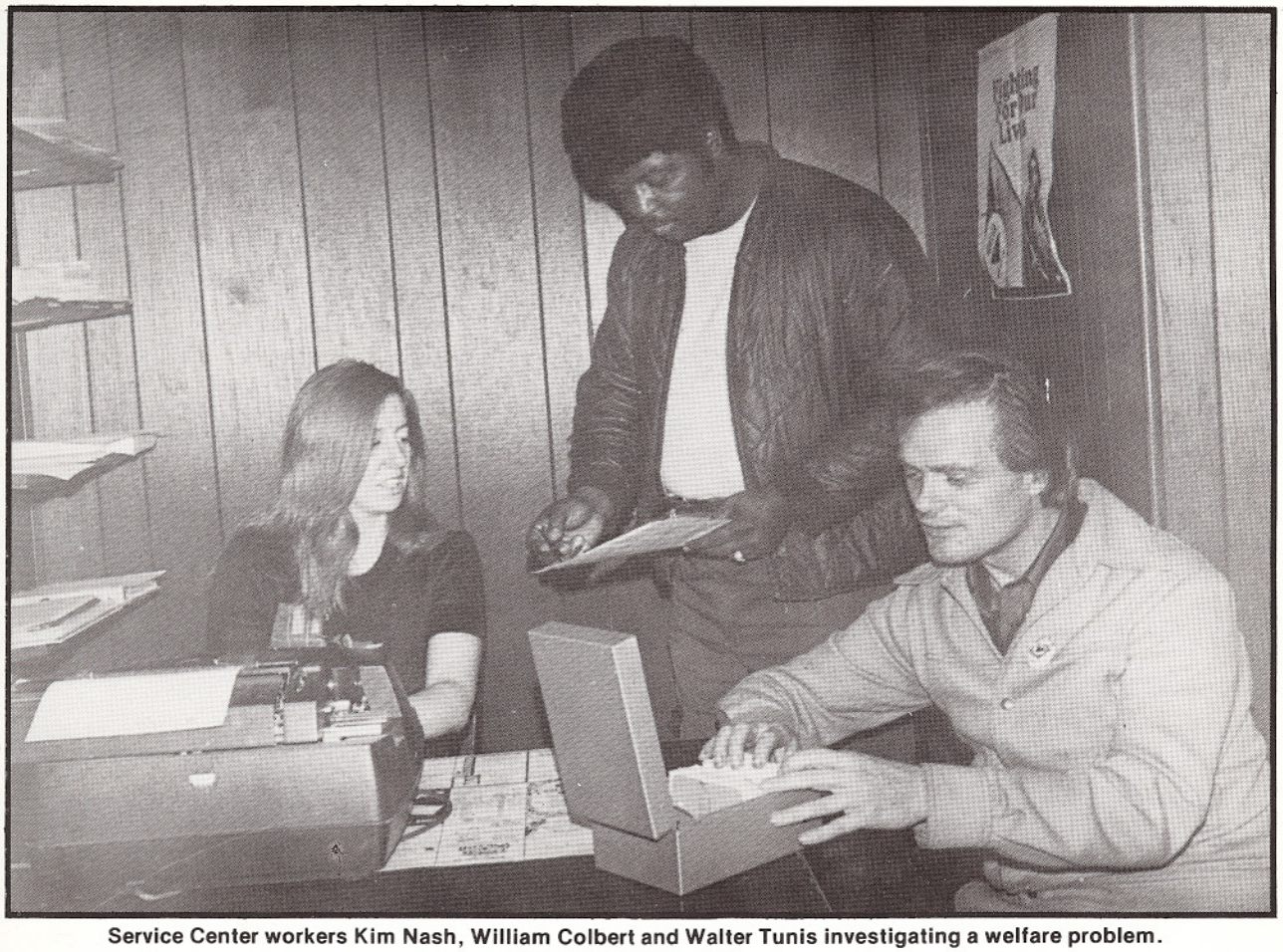

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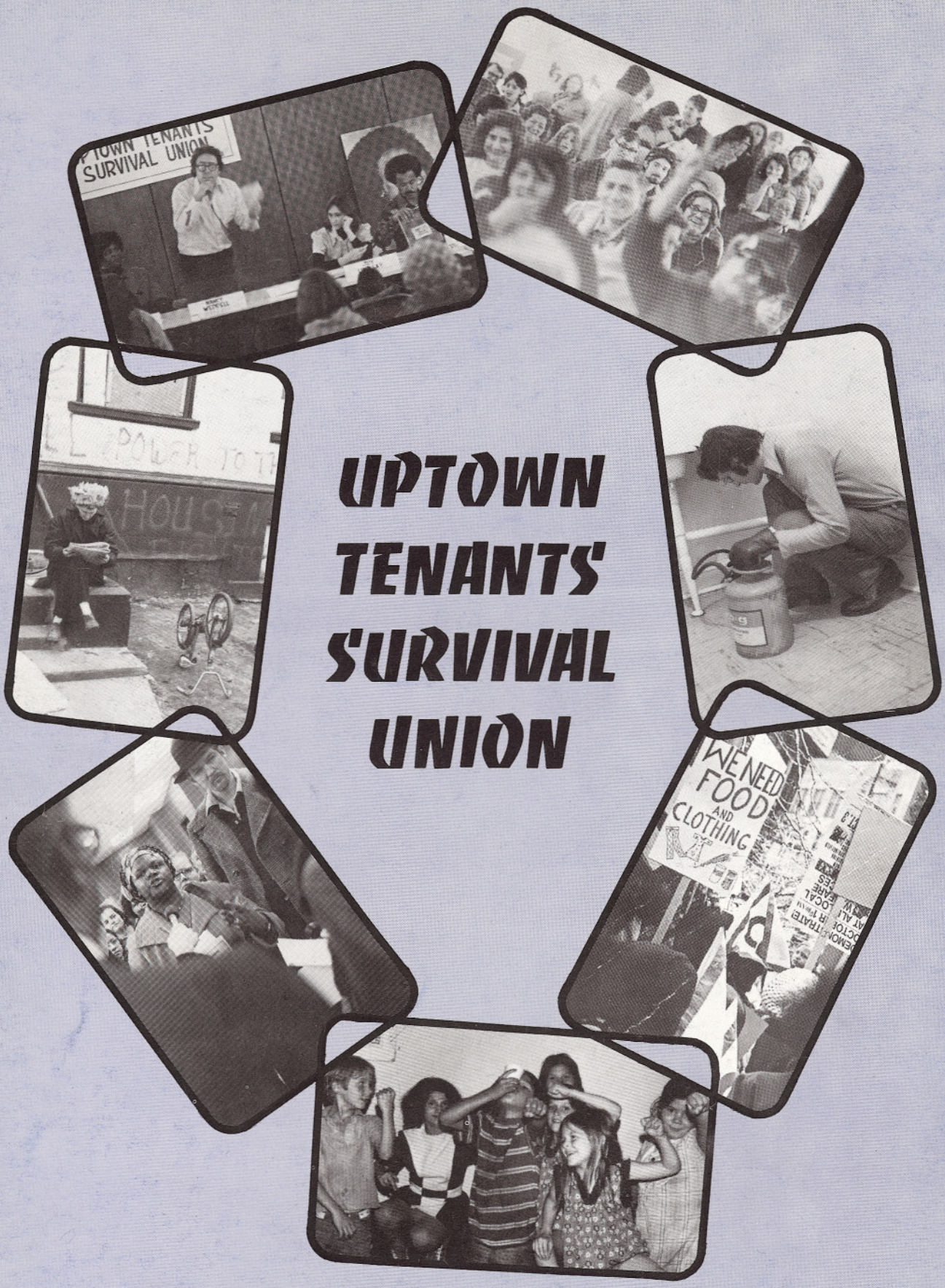

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